

DUDLEY CHRONICLE



Thursday, March 14, 2013

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Simon Snorkel

Former workers are pushing for memorial

Page 5



Well gnome

Tour guide Davy takes his garden role seriously

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Eagles soaring

Good times appear to be here for young team

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Route to close for six weeks of works

A MAIN route through the heart of Stourbridge will be closed for around six weeks as work on a £30 million Tesco development enters the next stage.

Crown Lane will shut to traffic but a diversion will take drivers over Crown Square for the first time in more than 10 years.

The pedestrianised area has been closed to traffic since the opening of the ring road.

The closure of Crown Lane will last for up to three weeks in April and July as construction continues.

Workers will be finishing off the steel frame and roof for the new Tesco store from April 8 and then laying down a new road from July 8.

Already, a large amount of the steel frame structure for the new store is in place.

As well as a supermarket, the development will provide a shopping centre and town square.

Lights will be installed on Stourbridge Town Hall as part of work to revamp the square to make it more attractive to shoppers.

While the road is closed, the diversion will take motorists from Lower High Street, across Crown Square and down Market Street and Bell Street where they can then exit on to the ring road.

Thumbs up for murals

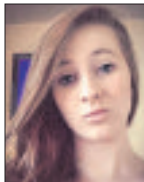
PLANS to create two murals honouring two of Halesowen's most famous sons have been rubber-stamped.

They will be designed by Dudley borough artist Steve Field and pay tribute to poet William Shenstone, who designed The Leasowes park, and novelist Francis Brett Young. Dudley Council plans to unveil them at Cornbow Hall next year – a significant anniversary year for both of the writers.

The proposals have now been approved by cabinet member for culture Councillor Tracy Wood.

FAMILY'S TRIBUTE TO THEIR PRINCESS

by Heather Large



Christina Edkins

THE heartbroken family of tragic Black Country schoolgirl Christina Edkins who was stabbed to death on a bus have paid tribute to their "beautiful princess".

The 16-year-old, was travelling to Leasowes High School, Halesowen, on a packed double decker when she was killed. Christina, who lived in Ladywood, died from a single stab wound to the chest as the number nine bus made its way along Hagley Road, Birmingham last Thursday morning. Her parents Kathleen and Jason, brother Ryan and half-sister Joanne said words could not even begin to describe the pain they were suffering.

"Our family and friends knew her as an amazing individual with her whole life ahead of her which was tragically taken away on that Thursday morning. Our lives will never be the same again," they said in a statement.

"Our daughter was the most beautiful, intelligent and bright young lady. Christina was like most 16-year-olds: worried about her appearance, which fake tan to wear and how her hair and nails looked and also 'hot boys' as Christina would call them.

"We had bought Christina's prom dress the week before and recall the day she tried it on and she looked like a princess. She was studying extremely hard for her exams and was considering which college to go to," they said.

Overwhelmed

The family added they were overwhelmed by the kindness shown by friends and neighbours as well as people who had never met her. A book of condolence has been opened at St Peter's Church in Lapal, Halesowen, near Leasowes School.

The Rev Mike Rutter, vicar of St. Peter's, said: "Our thoughts and prayers are with Christina's family and friends at this difficult time."

On Saturday fans at West Bromwich Albion paid an emotional tribute to the teenager, who was a keen Baggies supporter and former season ticket holder.

Her aunt and uncle were at the match on Saturday against Swansea when stadium announcer Russ Morris read a statement at half time, prompting a loud round of applause from Albion and visiting fans.

On Tuesday, police were granted authorisation from the Crown Prosecution Service to charge suspect 22-year-old Phillip Simelane of Walsall with Christina's murder.

Bishop is backing foodbank



The Bishop of Dudley, the Rt Rev David Walker, at the foodbank with founder Wendy Fryatt

FOODBANK volunteers in Dudley have pleaded for more action to help the plight of struggling families as the Bishop of Dudley paid a visit to show his support.

More than 450 children a month are being helped by the Black Country Foodbank – up by 190 compared with the same time 12 months ago.

Volunteers say more working families are now asking for support as they struggle to make ends meet in the tough financial times. The bishop, the Rt Rev David Walker, visited the foodbank's headquarters in Halesowen to see for himself the work vol-

unteers were doing to ensure shelves remain stocked ready to help families. "It is with great sadness that we need to even have foodbanks but it is a fantastic job they do to help people in need," said the 55-year-old father-of-two, who lives with his wife, Sue, in Old Hill.

"They see people in some terrible situations but they do work tirelessly and are dedicated to what they do."

Around 35 volunteers work for the foodbank out of its headquarters. The organisation also has ten branches, including Stourbridge.

More than 230 stray horses are removed

MORE than 230 stray horses have been taken off the streets of one Black Country borough in less than a year.

Dudley Council bosses said a campaign by police and the authority to control the problem of stray horses on the streets had been a "resounding success".

Duncan Lowndes, Dudley Council's assistant director of culture and leisure, said the issue of illegal grazing on council land and stray horses had been "endemic" in the Black Country for decades with irresponsible owners tethering or leaving their animals to roam on parks, sports pitches, nature reserves and other open land.

Public complaints about damage to property and the horses being a danger to motorists. In September last year the council entered into an arrangement with the police whereby horses can be removed from public roads in as part of a so-called "reactive bailiff" scheme.

Mr Lowndes said since the policy had been introduced the problem of stray horses had decreased. He said that between April 2011 and January this year, there had been a total of 237 horses removed. Of these, 171 have been rehomed, 59 were waiting to be rehomed and seven had been returned to their owners.

Two rescued from house

TWO people were pulled from a Halesowen house unconscious with suspected carbon monoxide poisoning while neighbouring homes were evacuated.

Fire crews were called to the mid-terrace house in Intended Street at 8.20pm on Monday night.

A female, in her 30s, escaped from the house, despite feeling unwell and called the emergency services. Fire crews pulled a middle-aged man and an 87-year-old man from the house. They were treated by paramedics.

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Penguin Bongo being reared by hand



Kellie Piper with Bongo

A PENGUIN chick which was abandoned by its mother during a rainstorm is being cared for by keepers at Dudley Zoo.

Little Bongo was taken in and hand-reared by the team after being found outside the nesting boxes.

Four months on, the youngster is being hand fed sprats and growing stronger each day.

Keepers are returning the chick to the Penguin Bay enclosure for a few

hours a day, so it can get used to fellow members of the 70-strong colony before moving back permanently.

Team leader for the birds section Kellie Piper said: "We are keeping Bongo in a wooden pen on the edge of the pool at the moment, so it gets used to the surroundings and the other penguins. We haven't been able to sex the chick yet, it's a bit too early, but Bongo is coming on well." Dudley Zoo's success in the international breeding pro-

gramme for Humboldt penguins spans more than two decades.

When it started the programme in 1991, there were just five hand reared chicks.

Now the zoo is home to the UK's largest parent-reared colony of Humboldt penguins. The conservation programme has also been recognised by BIAZA (British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums) and gained an award for sustained breeding.

Death crash insomniac is jailed and given ban

A PENSIONER who took a drive to help his insomnia but then fell asleep at the wheel and killed a man, has been jailed for four years and eight months.

Insomniac Michael Worrall had gone out for a drive in his Vauxhall Astra to help him relax having not slept for three previous nights. But tragedy struck when he fell asleep at the wheel and smashed into the back of Geoffrey Harris's car in Stallings Lane, Kingswinford.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court, Judge Michael Dudley banned the 70-year-old from driving for 10 years and urged him to never take control of a car again.

Prosecutor Miss Joanne Parker told the court that collision experts estimated the defendant would have been driving at about 43mph along the 30mph route when his car crashed.

She said if Worrall had been awake and alert, he would have had 12 seconds to stop his car before impact.

The force of the smash, which took place at about 5am on February 27 last year, saw the 56-year-old victim, from Abberley Road, Lower Gornal, thrown from his car, the court heard.

Mr Harris had been on his way to work when his car was hit and Worrall's vehicle travelled a further 110 metres after the crash.

Worrall, of Withern Way, Lower Gornal, admitted causing death by dangerous driving.

Defence barrister Mr Roy Paterson said Worrall, a former building worker, had expressed "deep and genuine remorse".

He added: "He wishes the clock could be turned back but sadly, it can't. This seems to be an extremely poor error of judgement."

Jailing Worrall, Judge Dudley told him: "On three occasions during the course of that night you made the conscious decision to drive your car."

Retirement home hits right note



Accordian player Ken Cooper, aged 91, with choirmaster for the Anchor project Carl Martin at St Clements Court, Halesowen, where residents were recording a song for charity

SINGERS and musicians from a Halesowen retirement home were in fine voice when they recorded a charity single.

The song called See Yourself, which will be on sale in the summer, will raise money for Contact the Elderly, which organises monthly Sunday tea parties for older people living alone.

Eleven people from Halesowen's St Clements Court, who are members of the Anchor Band, sang and played musical instruments, including 91-year-old Ken Cooper. Mr Cooper, who plays the accordian on the recording, said he had spent weeks

rehearsing. He said: "Music has played such an important part in my life. I really enjoy playing several instruments because it lifts my mood and helps me cope with whatever life throws at me."

"Thanks to music, I feel like a 70-year-old, not a 91 year old."

Mr Cooper, who has lived at St Clements Court in Hill Street for three years also plays the organ at two church day centres in Halesowen. He said: "Rehearsing for this song with lots of other older people living in other Anchor properties has been such an amazing experience."

1,800 on petition over taxi colours

MORE than 1,800 taxi drivers and customers in Dudley have signed a petition calling on the council to re-think its policy for only allowing white cars to be used for private hire.

Dudley Council brought in regulations for the single colour scheme to improve safety for residents.

But taxi drivers claim the rules cost them hundreds of pounds extra in higher prices from car manufacturers. They say they have resorted to expensive re-sprays of existing vehicles instead to comply with the rules.

Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association says the growing popularity of white cars, driven by their use in music videos and by celebrities, has pushed the price of vehicles through the roof.

The colour scheme was introduced in 2006 to make licensed vehicles easily identifiable. However, more than 1,800 people have signed a petition to be presented to the council at a meeting this week asking for a change in policy. The association wants at least another colour option, such as silver or grey, to be added to the rules to free up drivers to purchase cheaper cars.

Real ale time for May Day

A REAL ale festival will take place as part of a Smethwick park's May Day Festival.

The event at Lightwoods Park on May 6 will offer a range of tipples. Meanwhile Kinver brewery has offered to brew a special ale specially for the day.

Lightwoods Park Friends Group chairman Richard Marshall said: "We have had fantastic support for the idea from Enville Brewery near Stourbridge who are offering to supply some of their range of speciality brews, deliver and tap the barrels, and collect from other breweries."

Dog donations

DOG coats, bowls, blankets and other equipment has been collected by students at Dudley College and donated to Birmingham Dogs Home.

As part of their course students looked at how convictions of cruelty and neglect to animals are rising, prompting them to try to help unwanted dogs.

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Warning on child benefits

PARENTS being forced to pay back their child benefit income under new tax rules have been urged to seek advice.

The new rules, through which the government hopes to save £1.5bn a year, came into effect on January 7 as part of a number of sweeping HM Revenue and Customs tax measures.

The benefit changes will see more than one million parents having to declare their Child Benefit income by April 5, while others who simply fail to register online by October 5 could face fines.

Tax expert Anita Stewart, a partner at Bewdley-based DHH Chartered Accountants, said parents should 'think smart' to reduce their tax bill by looking at the various options available.

She said: "For the first time ever Child Benefit is being means tested and it will pile more pressure onto household incomes."

"In a nutshell, child benefit income has been slashed within families where one parent has an income of £50,000 with those earning over £60,000 faced with the reality of it being entirely withdrawn. But there is confusion as payments have not been altered automatically."

Dodd does 5-hour show

ABOUT 1,000 people crammed into Dudley Town Hall for an evening of stand-up comedy with Ken Dodd.

The 85-year-old, known for continuing his performances into the early hours, kicked off around 7pm on Saturday and wrapped up just after midnight.

David Eden, the venue's front of house events manager, said: "He was very well received, and he was happy to sign souvenirs and programmes afterwards. It was a really good night, very entertaining and very funny."

More flights

ONE of the leading airlines at Birmingham Airport is increasing the frequency of its Barcelona service from the West Midlands gateway from four times a week to every day.

The Barcelona route has been a popular choice with passengers since its introduction and the frequency will increase from May 1.

Food contract boost will create 500 jobs

FIVE hundred jobs will be created in the Black Country by 2 Sisters Food group, bosses have announced.

The firm, which has plants in West Bromwich, Smethwick and Wolverhampton, has been boosted by a surge in orders. They include securing an improved multi-million pound contract last year to supply poultry to Sainsbury's.

The group is moving from a five to seven day working week as part of its plans to increase output.

The poultry division plants in Bevan Way, Smethwick; Dial Lane, West Bromwich and Lincoln Street, Wolverhampton, employ

1,200. Last December around 800 of them took part in a one-day strike called by union Unite over a new pay deal as part of the move to seven day working.

Group spokesman Andrew Hanson said that after a deal was reached the changes were in the process of being implemented.

He said there was no exact time scale yet for when the group would begin recruiting but added, we expect to start during this year. Mr Hanson said the move to the five in seven day working system would create 500 jobs, mainly in the West Midlands.

The group is ramping up poultry meat production capacity and is to extend an

existing factory in Newport, South Wales, and alter the layout of two chicken processing plants in Norfolk and Devon.

It has appointed Clegg Food Projects to work on the schemes, which are to be completed in the summer.

Sainsbury's is sourcing all its chicken from 2 Sisters and Moy Park as part of its "2020 Strategy" - a move to sell more British food by 2020.

It previously had three suppliers, which included 2 Sisters. The increased supply to Sainsbury's begins in the second quarter of this year. The group was started in West Bromwich in 1993 by chief executive Ranjit

Singh Boparan. It started out specialising in supplying poultry, but now also offers fish, chilled foods, bakery and frozen products to the retail, food service and food manufacturing sectors.

It is split into six divisions and has 35 manufacturing sites in the UK and Ireland, six in Holland and one in Poland and employs more than 18,000 people in total.

The UK poultry division supplies to a range of retailers and food service businesses and food manufacturers. It predominantly produces private label products however, there are some brands including Buxted and Devonshire Red.

Car that puts drivers on the road at the age of 16

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLDS who are desperate to get behind the wheel of a car, now don't need to wait for that extra year.

Thanks to a firm which has a base in Brierley Hill, youngsters can get on the move 12 months early.

The Aixam Coupe S which is designed for 16-year-olds has gone on sale at Merry Hill shopping centre at £10,359. And is likely to cost 16-year-olds about £1,700 in insurance.

The Steve Smith Motor Company is one of only 10 dealers in the country selling the vehicles. Steve Smith, aged 48, said the car was limited to a speed of just under 30mph, had a 400cc engine and could be driven by 16-year-olds as soon as they had a full moped licence.

He said: "It's a good and safe way for 16-year-olds to get on the road. My son, who is 16 and has a scooter, won't shut up about them."

"He loved the styling and enjoyed driving it."

The two-seater car looks like a small version of a Mini but is classed as a light quadricycle, which gives an extra option to 16-year-olds who were have been restricted to 50cc mopeds.

Confidence

To qualify as a quadricycle, the French-made vehicle, which has two white stripes on the bonnet, had to weigh less than 350kg, have a power output not exceeding 4kw, and a maximum speed of 30mph. The Aixam has one forward gear, neutral and reverse.

Mr Smith's son Ethan said: "It's a bit like driving a go-kart and, at 16, I'd rather have one of these than a moped."

Manager of the motor company's Merry Hill branch Darren Winwood said: "We've already had a lot of interest from parents and even grandparents."

"I think one of the most attractive things is the insurance."

"Some 17 and 18-year-olds are paying between £3,000 and £6,000 in car insurance a year. What we can get with this one at the moment is about £1,700."

At Merry Hill, teenagers can test drive the car as long as they are accompanied by a parent.

Before they buy the car, which Mr Smith is selling for £10,359, they need to do their theory and practical full AM moped test.

The car was launched in November in Birmingham and there are already thousands on European roads.



Driver Ethan Smith with Steve Smith, from Steve Smith Motor Company, and the Aixam Coupe S, which can be driven by 16-year-olds



Ethan, aged 16, takes a look inside the Aixam Coupe S, which has a price tag of £10,000

NEWS in brief

Call for rethink on canteen cuts

AN MP is calling on health bosses to rethink their controversial plans to reduce the opening hours of the canteen at Russell's Hall Hospital.

Ian Austin has written to chief executive Paula Clark about his concerns after it was announced the canteen would shut at weekends from next month. The moves form part of cost-cutting proposals aimed at saving £15 million by 2015. Under the plans, the canteen would open between 7am and 2.30pm Monday to Friday.

Mayor officiates at club reopening

CRICKET supporters celebrated the official opening of their club pavilion by the Mayor of Dudley after a £42,000 revamp.

Stourbridge Cricket Club hosted the ceremony to mark the end of a five-year campaign to refurbish the clubhouse.

The Mayor, Councillor Melvyn Mottram officially opened the building.

The club is based at the War Memorial Athletic Ground, in Amblecote High Street, along with Stourbridge FC.

Wetherspoon's stops pubs sale

JD Wetherspoon has no plans to sell any more of its pub sites to supermarket chains. It had come under fire after selling sites in Croxall and Wandsworth last year.

In both cases, supermarket chains approached the pubs group to buy the buildings. A spokesman said it understood the concerns of Camra and had no further plans to sell pubs to supermarkets.

Airshow tickets are now on sale

TICKETS for this year's RAF Cosford Air Show are now available to buy.

As well as the RAF museum at Cosford people will be able to pick up a ticket from tourist information centres in Stafford and Shrewsbury.

The show will be on June 9. Tickets are £20. Visit www.cosfordairshow.co.uk

Firm is expanding

A CRADLEY Heath drop forging specialist is taking on five extra staff.

Premier Stampings has invested more than £1 million in the new 400 sq metres heat treatment plant in Station Street.

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NEWS

THE BEST
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RHODES

THE summer of 2013? It was a week last Tuesday.
□□□□□□□□

NO SURPRISES in the Europe-wide report on the dangers of eating processed meat. As a general rule of nature, the better something tastes, the worse it is for you. And can you think of anything in the natural world that tastes quite as good as a bacon sarnie with brown sauce? It is the food of the gods. The only snag is that the more you eat, the sooner you will be with the gods.

□□□□□□□□

SCIENTISTS in East Anglia say half of Britain's 1.5 million deer should be culled to prevent "devastation" of the countryside. Any driver whose car has been written off by a jaywalking muntjac will agree with that. But there is no need for wholesale slaughter. Britain has too many deer because we have exterminated all their natural predators. If the shy, beautiful Eurasian lynx were reintroduced to remote areas of our land, the deer problem would be sorted before you could say Bambi.

□□□□□□□□

STREET artists. Do they draw the crowds?
□□□□□□□□

IN LIFE, as in all the best jokes, the secret of success is timing. Last week came news of a great British breakthrough in driverless-vehicle technology. This week, scientists in Massachusetts have revealed a revolutionary coating which stops car windscreens steaming up. The way things are going, the Yanks will be making the first unsteameable windscreens at about the same time as the Brits are building the first cars without windscreens. Aw, shucks.

□□□□□□□□

WE went along to Wild Night Out, naturalist Chris Packham's one-man show which is currently touring Middle England. The affable Spring-watch presenter and wildlife photographer is a great raconteur and he presents some breathtaking snaps of everything from pondskaters to tigers. But what of his central ecological argument, that we can only have a thriving, animal-rich countryside if we Brits are prepared to pay more for food, thus encouraging less intensive farming? Try telling a struggling housing-estate mum that there could be barn owls and goshawks on every English farm – if only she would pay an extra £20 a week for food. We are a divided nation. A green, middle-class argument that brings applause in Lichfield or Leamington Spa goes down like a lead balloon in Bilston.

□□□□□□□□

THERE are two mysteries in ITV's new crime drama, Broadchurch. The first is who committed the murder. The second is why no senior officer has got a grip on the scruffy, stubbly, newly promoted DI Hardy (David Tennant) and told him to smarten himself up.

□□□□□□□□

JUST supposing Britain and the United States were stupid enough to supply weapons to the rag-tag insurgents in Syria, as the Syrian resistance is demanding. How long before those weapons would find their way into Afghanistan and be used against British and US troops? The road to Damascus, like the road to hell, is paved with good intentions.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Mike soldiers on despite snake bite

When mayoral attendant Mike Cranage stopped to cool down at a waterfall during his mammoth trek through the Costa Rican jungle he had no notion of the danger lying in wait for him.

As he set off back into the undergrowth, he was bitten by a venomous snake leaving him needing emergency treatment.

The 53-year-old, from Netherton, started to feel ill but still managed the three-hour trek to the next meeting point.

"I'm not sure how long it took but by the

time I reached the meeting point I was feeling a bit rough and in the end I could only manage eight or nine paces before I had to stop and rest. I must have looked a right a mess. "As soon as I got there I was asked what's wrong and all I could say was 'snake'," said Mr Cranage, who works for Dudley Council.

He was then rushed in a 4x4 for a bumpy, two-hour journey to a jungle clinic. "By the time we got there my blood pressure was through the roof, I had a heart rate of 180

and was suffering arterial fibrillation.

"I was put on oxygen and attached to heart and blood pressure monitors," he said. At the clinic, he was given injections and pills which returned his blood pressure to normal." After six hours he was released. Despite the setback, Mr Cranage, who has worked for the council for 10 years, completed the rest of the 150-mile trek, which included a 1,000-metre climb to the top of a volcano.



Mike Cranage

£500,000 scheme to spruce up homes

A £500,000 scheme to spruce up homes in a Dudley street is getting under way as part of a project that will also see empty properties brought back into use.

Council officials have linked with Jephson Homes Housing Association for the project to revamp homes in Stourbridge Road, Holly Hall.

New windows and roof repairs are among the works planned for properties along the busy route between Dudley and Brierley Hill.

Bosses said the focus of the project is the availability of quality affordable housing in Dudley for people in need of places to live.

In total, 17 large houses, which had been converted into 47 bedsits and small flats in the early 1980s, are being redesigned.

These will be modernised to meet needs of people in the area and turned into homes ranging from single bedroom flats to five-bedroom houses.

It is hoped the work, which will be completed in a series of phases, will match future demand in the borough in coming years.

Campaign to cut speeding

CAMPAIGNERS will be out and about to voice their concerns about speeding motorists in a Stourbridge suburb.

They want a 20mph speed limit introduced on roads in the town's Old Quarter to slow down traffic after fears were raised over the safety of pedestrians.

Residents will stage events over the next seven weeks.

The first walk took place on Sunday at 10.30am at the junction of Park Road and High Park Avenue. It took in Lady Grey's Walk, Lytton Road, Whitmore Road, Palfrey Road, Studley Gate, Park Road and Gladstone Rd.

Dreams buy bid

THE founder of the Dreams bed stores group hopes to buy some of the remaining sites that have not been sold already.

Mike Clare is negotiating with the administrators of the remaining 90 stores to buy more than 50. Stores in Dudley and Oldbury continue to trade.

Under-threat centre is excellent, says Ofsted

EDUCATION watchdogs have praised an under-threat children's centre in Dudley as being excellent.

Woodside Children's Centre, Highgate Road has received top marks from Ofsted inspectors. The score comes as the centre, along with 19 other centres in the borough, face an unknown future following a big cut in Government funding.

Although Dudley Council has assured none of the centres will close within the next 12 months, there is no guaranteed long-term future for them.

Dudley Council's cabinet member for education, Councillor Tim Crumpton, said the Ofsted report proved how important the centres were to the communities they served.

The centre's management was recently taken over by Dudley Council, which will be taking over all the other centres from April 1.

Difference

The centre is used by 92 per cent of families in its patch, according to the Ofsted report.

It said: "The centre provides outstanding value for money and is making a substantial difference to the lives of children and their families living in the area."

Sarah Tuck, manager at Woodside, said: "I feel very proud that Woodside Children's Centre has received an outstanding Ofsted report."

"I would like to thank all the staff and the families who attend the centre for their hard work and dedication."

"It is very clear the centre is making a positive difference to the lives of many families and we look forward to continuing to provide the local community outstanding services as the centre continues to develop," she said.



Under-threat facility has received top marks following an Ofsted inspection

New agency to handle gripes

DUDLEY Council has appointed an independent advocacy agency to run the borough's NHS complaints service.

Pohwer will help people who need assistance in complaining about the healthcare service they have received.

Previously overseen by the Department of Health, the responsibility for complaints advocacy will be passed to councils from April 1. Pohwer has been awarded a one-year contract.

Councillor Zafar Islam said: "Complaints advocacy is a really important service."

It is vital in ensuring that some of our most vulnerable members of the community have their voices heard."

Pohwer's NHS Complaints Advocacy Service in Dudley can be contacted on 0300 456 2370.

Man held over car death crash

A MAN has been arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving in connection with a car crash that killed a mother of two from Kingswinford.

Samantha Jennings, aged 26, died in the car crash on the A449 at Cookley near Kidderminster, early on December 8. She was a front seat passenger in a black Vauxhall Astra which left the road and hit a tree, near the Island Pool pub.

The male driver was taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham with serious injuries, while a male rear seat passenger was taken to the Worcestershire Royal Hospital with minor injuries.

Police said that a 22-year-old Stourbridge man was arrested. He has been released on police bail until May 13, pending further inquiries into the death.

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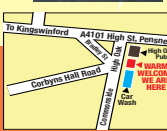
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Cook's will shed 2,500 jobs in cuts

THOMAS Cook has announced plans to axe 2,500 UK jobs – hundreds of them at former Co-op Travel stores in the Midlands.

There will be 195 travel agents closed down on the high street with the loss of 1,600 posts, while around 930 people will lose their jobs at offices nationwide.

The move is part of Thomas Cook's efforts to turn around the business after a string of poor results, including "unacceptable losses" of £590 million in November last year.

The company says it also reflects the fact that more customers are using the internet and call centres to book their holidays, rather than high street travel agents.

The company employs 15,500 people and will still have 874 high street branches.

No details have yet been revealed about which stores will close, but shopworkers union Usdaw said it affected 119 former Co-op Travel and Midlands Co-op Travel stores, merged into Thomas Cook in 2010.

Another 76 Thomas Cook stores are also set for closure, but it is not known if branches in the Black Country, are affected.

Meals price is defended

A DUDLEY education chief has defended a decision to raise the price of school meals – saying parents in the borough still pay the lowest for them than anywhere else in the region.

Dudley Council recently agreed to a 5p rise in the price of meals to £1.90 a day, or £9.50 a week. The 3.3 per cent inflation rise will cover the rising cost of food and fuel and will bring in an extra £125,000.

Councillor Tim Crumpton, said: "Serving good quality school meals at affordable prices is absolutely essential for our children."

"This price rise of 5p a day is as low as we can afford. This takes the price of a meal to £1.90, still as low as anywhere in the region."

Custody support

WEST Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner Bob Jones has developed a scheme for vulnerable adults held in custody. About 40 people have been trained to be available to assist police officers.

Local breweries enjoy boom in beer sales

INDEPENDENT breweries saw a boom in beer sales of 6.8 per cent last year as more and more people turn to real ale.

Local brewers sold more than 1.4 million barrels and increased their workforces by 25 per cent to nearly 5,000 employees across the region in 2012. Their success came despite many larger breweries cutting numbers.

The figures have come from the Society of Independent Brewers (Siba) in its 11th annual Local Beer Report, based on a survey of 315 of its members.

Siba chief executive Julian Grocock said: "The local brewing industry is one that we

should all be raising a large glass to, such is its positive contribution to the economic and social health of the nation."

"Local brewing is unusual, if not unique, as a British manufacturing industry that is increasing production and market share, welcoming new producers, generating significant employment, investing for a sustainable future and contributing economically and socially to the hundreds of localities where independent brewers are based."

Mr Grocock said Siba brewers reinvested 23 per cent of their turnover in 2012, demonstrating real confidence in the

prospects for their businesses. Siba member Kinver Brewery moved to larger premises last year because of growing demand.

Brewery co-owner Dave Kelly said: "We were selling all the beer we could make and needed to move to increase capacity."

"We can now produce an average of 60 firkins a week," he added.

The brewery, which is now based at Britch Farm, Rocky Wall, Kinver, won the Campaign for Real Ale's West Midlands beer of the year title in 2012 for its 7.6 per cent brew called Over the Edge.

Mr Kelly said Kinver, which was started eight years ago, might take on extra staff in

the future if growth continued. Chris Sadler, managing director of Sadler's Ales, Lye, said the brewery, which was launched nine years ago, had experienced strong growth for the last two to three years and was now producing 3,000 barrels a year.

He said: "We took on an extra member of staff last year and we are opening a new pub in Worcester in six weeks' time."

"We have also started selling our bottled beers through Tesco locally and are experiencing growing demand for both our bottled and cask ales," he added.

"In the next couple of years we are looking to build a bigger brewery."

Push for memorial to the revolutionary Simon Snorkel

IT was a revolutionary model of mechanical design built only in Dudley and shipped around the globe to be used for a whole range of functions, including firefighting and industrial development.

The Simon Snorkel is seen on fire engines, rescue vehicles and aeroplane ice removers – one even stands monument-like in the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster in Ukraine. Now, more than 20 years after the last one was rolled out of the factory in Dudley, the men and women who worked to build them want to install a monument to commemorate the machine's birthplace. The group of ex-employees of the

now-defunct Simon Engineering has come up with two designs for a statue and is to ask Dudley Council for up to £10,000 funding for the plan.

Thomas Mullen, chairman of the Simon Engineering Retirement Association, said the company's impact around the globe and benefit to the local economy deserved recognition.

The Stockport-based company built the hydraulic platforms at a factory in Queen's Cross, Dudley, from 1953 until 1975, when it moved to a new base opposite Russells Hall Hospital in Pensnett Road, Holly Hall.

Worldwide

More than 13,000 of the machines were built at the two sites and sold to more than 150 countries worldwide. At its height, the company employed 375 people in the town, including the current Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Melvyn Mottram.

The machine was thought up by company director Sir Patrick Hamilton who saw a similar mechanical device used for the picking off apples in Canada.

Mr Mullen, aged 79, of Hurst Hill, Coseley, worked for the company in Dudley as a floor operator from 1975 until it closed down operations in 1995.

He said: "Simon Engineering put Dudley on the map. We really believe something should be placed to remind people of where the company was based and the invention built."

"I think it is important the young people of Dudley know the town's history, too often old industries get forgotten in the past despite their huge impact."

Beer festival at pub

THE Old Chainyard pub in Castle Street, Coseley, is holding its first beer festival in April. The event will run from April 5 to 8.



Roland Smith, front holding the designs, and fellow members of the association



Two of the memorial designs from Steve Field, Dudley borough's design artist

NEWS in brief

More specials for local routes

SEVEN more volunteer police officers are patrolling public transport in the West Midlands.

They are working as part of the Safer Travel Police Team, which patrols buses, trains and Metro trams.

The number of special constables on the team has gone up from three to 10 and the number of police officers overall is now 26, coupled with 24 community support officers.

The new specials were officially sworn in by magistrate Jill Parker, of Wolverhampton.

Patients tune up for opera show

PEOPLE with dementia are tuning up for their moment in the spotlight as they work with the English Touring Opera to put on a musical show at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre.

They are writing their own songs as part of a unique project also involving WAVE – the museums, galleries and archives of Wolverhampton.

The final piece is due to be premiered at the Grand Theatre on Wednesday April 17. To find out more call 01902 552033.

Workshops will focus on links

WORKSHOPS raising awareness of anti-social behaviour and its links with mental health issues will take place in Dudley this spring.

There are workshops running at Wren's Nest Community Centre, Summer Road, Dudley, on March 21, 27 and April 4.

For more details contact 01384 816916.

Expectation over Dickens show

THE great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens will bring alive his famous ancestor's Great Expectations in a one-man show in Dudley. Gerald Dickens will give his performance at Netherthorpe Arts Centre, Dudley, on April 26 starting at 1.30pm and 7.30pm.

Tickets are available from Dudley Performing Arts on 01384 813943.

Lost mansions

IAN Bott will give an illustrated talk to Stourbridge History Society on the lost mansions of the Black Country at the Ambleside Room, Stourbridge Town Hall on March 21 at 7.30pm.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH
MARK
ANDREWS

HAVING spotted Ayli burying his much-loved buggie in the garden, Aynuk inquired about the cause of the death.

"Beard flu" replied Ayli.
"Beard flu? How did he get that?" asked Aynuk, surprised.
"I dunno, I just opened the doozer an' he flu under the buzz."

TRUTH be told, I think my copy must have got lost in the post. But I am reliably informed by avid readers of the clinicians' journal BMC Medical that three pork sausages a day is a passport to an early grave.

Or more than two bacon rashers. As for pork scratchings or faggots and paes, even the mention of their very name is enough to give the good medics a fatal coronary. Which would presumably result in a premature death for them too.

According to an international investigation, it seems that processed meat, or maet as we call it in the Black Country, has joined the already massive list of things we are not supposed to eat.

Apparently, if we eat more than one ounce of processed meat a day, we will almost certainly die from an overdose of iron. That is if the cholesterol does not get to us first. Or the nitrates, which are added to improve the flavour, and presumably mask the taste from the liberal helpings of horse meat.

Of course, as many a Black Countryman will testify, there are certain pubs in the region where irksome questions about the nutritional content of processed meat products will lead to premature death, far more instantaneous than anything associated with the risks of a few too many carcinogens. Even so it makes for depressing reading.

Speaking as one who, on recent government advice, has cut down alcohol consumption to just five nights a week, it was bad enough hearing that even fizzy pop is now viewed as a potential killer. Apparently it should be taxed at 20 per cent, presumably in a bid to cut down on the menace of binge lemonade drinkers who wreak havoc in our city centres every Saturday night.

If the experts are to be believed, a diet of muesli, vegetables and water is our only hope if we are to avoid imminent and painful death. And only then if we get our obligatory five-a-day.

I don't know about you, but that's a prospect which fills me with dread. Which is just as well. According to another survey, anxious pessimists live longer than the rest of the population.

ON the subject of a vegetarian diet, it has just been revealed that several veggie lasagnes have been caught up in the horse meat scandal. Apparently they have been contaminated with unicorn.

A TEENAGE boy in the Black Country. Is he a monsoon?



One of Beryl's old photographs showing her doing her cabaret act



A publicity shot of Beryl



The interior of the Dudley Hippodrome where Beryl performed

Singer Beryl recalls great days at the Hippodrome

Former Dudley singer Beryl Bate talks to ANDREW TURTON about her memories of her career and joining the fight to save the Hippodrome

AN adoring hometown audience cheering her from the rafters as she took to the stage of Dudley Hippodrome still lives in the memory.

Now singing star Beryl Bate wants other up-and-coming performers to experience life on the stage at the old theatre which is under threat of demolition.

Mrs Bate, who starred in a successful stage show at the theatre in the 1950s, has joined the voices of other campaigners trying to reopen the Hippodrome for future generations.

The pensioner from Pensnett trod the same boards graced by legendary names in showbiz including Bob Hope, Laurel & Hardy and George Formby.

Wonderful

"It was truly wonderful to appear on stage at the Hippodrome as I was so proud. The troupe I performed with were amazed by the brilliant atmosphere," said Mrs Bate, who has two children Dale and Deena.

She was born and raised in Pensnett and as a teenager found, while performing in pubs and clubs, she could sing like 1950s American jazz singer Kay Starr.

An agent told her about an advert in the New Musical Express looking for singers who could impersonate stars of the day.

She attended the audition in the Windmill Rehearsal Rooms in Piccadilly, in London, in 1957.

"When we attended it was like the X Factor of today," she said.

"There were 100s of young people



Beryl Bate who performed as a tribute singer in the 1950s now, aged 73

from all parts of the country who had come along for it," she said.

The impresario, a Mr C. Buckingham, invited her to join and soon 'Beryl Bate as Kay Starr' appeared in programmes and on billboards.

She joined the touring show Disc Doubles in 1958.

Success soon followed for the show and it was picked up by leading theatre owner and promotion company Moss Empires.

This led to shows at increasingly more impressive theatres - including

Her husband John, who worked at Round Oak Steelworks, rallied friends and family to come and see the show during its run.

The King's Head pub in Pensnett, also booked two coaches for friends to come and see the show while it was at the Hippodrome.

She would sing three songs and also take part in a group performance to open the show.

Other stars which were impersonated included Nat King Cole, Elvis and Louis Armstrong.

To while away the hours between evening performances, the cast were given complimentary passes to go around Dudley Zoo and Castle.

Homesick

But after months on the road, Mrs Bate was growing increasingly homesick and longed for life back in Dudley.

"I always had a comfortable home life and missed my family, friends and husband in our new house," she said.

She was eventually released from her contract - and was replaced by a singer impersonating 1950s Belfast-born songstress Ruby Murray.

"It was a wonderful experience and I can still smell the greasepaint but I made the decision to stop and it was the best decision I have ever made and I never regretted it," said Mrs Bate who still starred in cabaret shows afterwards.

"Even now I get people coming up to me saying about the show and saying 'you sung like Kay Starr' which is nice."

Mrs Bate, who carried on singing, is backing the campaign to save the theatre.

"It would be nice for the Dudley Hippodrome to open again so that others could perform in their hometown," she added.

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

A FACTORY worker from Coseley found himself at the centre of a full-scale drama after blinking at work. Three fire engines and an ambulance turned up to BJP Developments in Anchor Lane, Coseley, after Stephen Holmes got some grit in his eye. The accident had been misreported by an employee.

HUNDREDS of town hall staff and manual workers demonstrated outside Walsall council house in opposition to proposed wage cuts. Council chiefs had failed to agree over plans to curb spending and reduce the rates.

GRANDMOTHER Mabel Parkes had the mighty Coal Board at her mercy after finding out she was sitting on black gold. Mrs Parkes, whose husband Len was a former coalminer, entered into negotiations with the board after finding out there was 100,000 tons of quality coal under her Great Wyrley home.

1993...

A FORMER Wolverhampton family's ski holiday in Scotland was fraught with problems. Mrs Trudy Guy was knocked over by another skier, her seven-year-old son Andrew had to be stretchered off and 10-year-old Simon arrived at Inverness Hospital with a broken shin.

THE owner of a Wolverhampton shop with only one sink received his annual water bill for nearly £1,000. Nigel Teather, owner of Photo Mecca was billed £964.76 for 1993-94, despite having no hot running water. A spokesman for Severn Trent said water rates were based on rateable value not the amount used.

A WOLVERHAMPTON couple were left with a sinking feeling after a surveyor's report confirmed their house was sliding into the ground. Christopher and Patricia Sweet demanded to be moved from their home in Hamilton Gardens, Bushbury.

2003...

PEOPLE across Staffordshire and the Black Country saw red in a bid to raise cash and a smile for Comic Relief. Fundraisers took part in a range of weird and wacky events across the region, including a bouncathon in Sandwell and a sponsored cycle at Tipton Sports Academy.

PART-TIME soldiers from across the Black Country and Shropshire were set to play a key role in providing ammunition for the offensive against Saddam Hussein in Iraq.

HIDDEN spy cameras designed to catch thieves on film helped to reduce the number of repeat burglaries in the West Midlands by almost a third.

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LETTERS

Benefit of work is questionable

DUDLEY council has imposed a one-way traffic system in Sedgley, involving long detours for eastbound drivers who would normally use Gospel End Street and Vicar Street, and causing great inconvenience for residents of several local roads, for up to six months.

The purpose is to take down a high retaining wall by the junction of Vicar Street, The Priory and Gospel End Street, and rebuild it a few feet back.

A major part of this is to provide a pavement next to the wall, allowing children to be walked to school safely on that side of the road, and as a benefit to pedestrians.

Anyone who lives locally will know that there are existing, well-used pedestrian routes bypassing the wall, avoiding the problem of a lack of pavement next to it. This part of the aim was always unnecessary.

Recently, a barrier was placed across half of Vicar Street to prevent drivers turning left out of Dean Street. Since then, I've seen one car driven left out of Dean Street right round the barrier, two vehicles driven the "wrong" way down Vicar Street (including a Royal Mail van). Two drivers also came the "wrong" way up Gospel End Street.

Chaos. Local drivers will also no doubt

work out new rat runs to avoid the long detours while the work is done, putting extra traffic on to residential streets and narrow back roads.

I rather doubt if the work will do much to alleviate congestion caused by "mums' tractors" outside the nearby Cotwall End School.

Having lived in Dudley borough for 25 years, I regard this as yet another example of the council's failure to understand how their satellite towns operate, and of bad planning decisions as a consequence.

CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
Sedgley

Removing theatre is destroying our history

DUDLEY Hippodrome is an iconic building in Dudley. To demolish it would be removing a piece of local history.

We should be emotional about the building not its use as a theatre - this option is just a dream and cannot be sustained.

How about keeping the frontage and converting the building into a museum?

A museum of the Black Country? Not to compete with the Black Country Museum but to complement it and to present the story of the area and its people within an indoor space. I think we have a story to tell.

The new indoor museum along with the Black County Museum, Dudley Zoo and other attractions, could turn Dudley from a "go to" town to a "stay at" location and all that will mean to local businesses. This could be the key to opening up passenger rail links again.

MIKE JONES
Dudley

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Dudley Chronicle, Chronicle
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

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Hippodrome could be much more for us

ROSEMARY Dodd believes the Hippodrome is a blot on the landscape, does she believe this will be how it will look if and when it reopens?

If it is demolished, it will be turned into a car park. Who will pay for that? The ratepayer. There are more than enough car parks in and around Dudley standing empty. If she thinks the Hippodrome is a blot on the landscape, has she driven into Dudley from Sedgley and seen buildings waiting to be pulled down before they fall down?

Approaching Dudley via castle Gate you don't have time to see the landscape as you would end up in the back or side of another car. If the Hippodrome was reopened for what it was intended to be, it would be a beacon for the town as people approach from the Sandwell and Birmingham side.

As for the concert hall, it is no more than what it has always been, the town hall. I have known people who have been to concerts there and have said it does not have the right atmosphere, it is not and never will be a theatre.

The Hippodrome is part of the history of Dudley as much as the castle, there has been a theatre there since 1899.

NORMAN D CADDICK
Coseley

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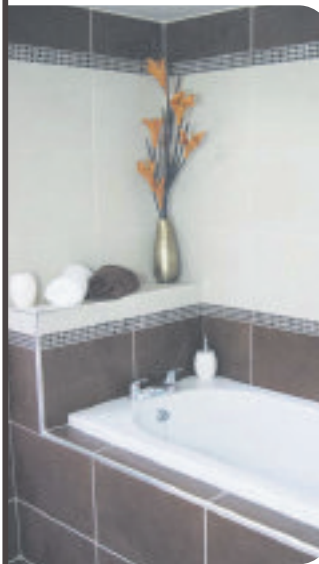
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NEWS

Lawyers are delving into claims on Russells Hall

RUSSELLS HALL HOSPITAL, Dudley is being investigated as part of 31 new claims from patients saying they were the victims of poor care at three hospitals.

Nine of the claims are against Russells Hall, one involves Wolverhampton's New Cross Hospital, and 21 are new allegations against scandal-hit Stafford.

The cases are being handled by Leigh Day solicitors, which says the scale of the complaints is "truly shocking".

The firm, which represented 120 victims of the Stafford failures, has revealed a flood of claims following the publication of the report by Robert Francis QC into Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust. Seven out of 10 of the claims are from pensioners.

Across the country, 28 hospitals have claims of neglect against them involving 116 people. In one case the daughter of an elderly man says her father's time in hospital left her with post-traumatic stress disorder, usually associated with soldiers returning from war zones.

Leigh Day lawyer Emma Jones said: "The scale of the complaints is truly shocking. What is particularly worrying is the same issues keep coming up."

"These include people, mostly elderly, going without food or water, being left to sit in their own waste, and general lack of care and attention by those paid to care."

"We believe there are many more people who suffered at these Midlands hospitals." Bosses from Russells Hall were unavailable for comment.

Speaking teams backed

ROTARIANS are backing two teams of students who are taking part in a contest to find the best public speakers in the country.

The Rotary Club of Stourbridge have agreed to sponsor the teams to take part in the Youth Speaks competition organised by Rotarians nationwide.

Getting high on society



High rollers – Steve Fletcher, Louise Griffin, Beth Henwood, Fleur Petford and Steve Homer from the Tab Operatic Society

AMATEUR performers will bring a touch of glamour to a Dudley stage with a popular musical later this month.

The Tab Operatic Society of Cradley Heath will stage High Society from March 19 to 23 at Brierley Hill Civic Hall.

Based on the 1956 hit film, the fast-moving show includes a host of popular songs including 'Throwin' a Ball Tonight, You're Sensational and She's Got That Thing'.

The story is set in 1948 and is centred around the wedding plans of wealthy socialite Tracy Lord who is about to marry her second husband, George Ketteridge. Tab Operatic

member Fleur Petford will be playing Tracy while Elaine Vine will be her mother Margaret.

Neil Greenway will be starring as her husband-to-be George while Louise Griffin and Stephen Homer will be journalists Liz and Mike who are sent to get the inside scoop on the wedding.

Director and choreographer Audrey Henwood said a cast of 50 had been rehearsing for the show since September. Performances start at 7.15pm. There is a Saturday matinee show at 2pm. For tickets call 07722 417962 or from the evening box office at the Civic Hall from March 11. Visit: www.taboperatic.com

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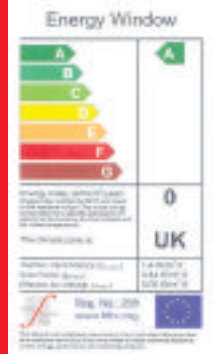
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NEWS

A diamond couple



Gerald and Betty Sheaf celebrating 60 years of marriage

A DIAMOND couple who first met at a Dudley music venue have celebrated 60 years of happy marriage.

Gerald Sheaf was 21 when he first spotted his bride-to-be Betty at the Robin Hood in Pedmore Road, Brierley Hill.

It was love at first sight for the engineering worker but he had to work hard to persuade the then 17-year-old he was the man for her.

"I saw her and thought I've got to know her."

"At first she didn't want to know but I eventually was able to break the ice and we courted for three years before we got engaged," he said. The couple, who live in Stoney Lane, Netherton tied the knot at Dudley Register Office on March 2 1953.

They went on to have two daughters Lyn and Diane and now have four grand-



Gerald and Betty on their wedding day in 1953

sons, Andrew, Richard, Christopher and Jamie and three great-granddaughters Imogen, Anna and Louise.

Mr Sheaf, now aged 84, worked for engineering firms in Dudley and Birmingham while Mrs Sheaf, 80, worked at an embroidery.

The couple marked their milestone with a family celebration. "We've had a wonderful life together," said Mr Sheaf.

Combat zone and blasters coming to Merry Hill

TWO new attractions are to be launched for youngsters at the Merry Hill shopping centre before Easter.

The third phase of the shopping centre's Quest entertainment development will feature a combat zone for foam darts game Nerf sponge blasters and the UK's first Yu-Kids soft play area.

by Andrew Turton

The Quest operational manager at Merry Hill Mark Knox said they expected the two new attractions to be open for Good Friday - March 29.

"Things are going terrifically and we have been extraordinarily busy," he added.

Mr Knox said that he would be taking on about a dozen new staff and once the new attractions were open he would be looking at doing more promotional activity.

He said a key aim was to increase the number of toddlers using facilities during the day.

Quest is owned by Paragon Entertainment and is its first owned and operated visitor attraction.

The attractions division opened its operation at Merry Hill in November offering the largest indoor ropes course in the UK, a

temporary outdoor ice rink, a Nerf blaster target range and shop and cafe.

The second phase opened on February 16 and added Quest for Adventure, an under-sevens soft play and ropes course area in the former Harry Ramsden's unit, as well as Quest for Golf a nine-hole minigolf course.

Nerf blasters are toys made by toy company Hasbro that fire foam ammunition and the covered combat zone is to be created on the area that was used for the ice rink which ran until the start of January.

More than 15,000 people visited Quest in its first month after it was officially opened to shoppers at the centre's Christmas lights turn on in November.

So far, 30 jobs have been created at the site, which will have cost £1.2m once completed.

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NEWS

New watch scheme aims to cut crime at churches

A NEW anti-crime watch group aimed at tackling theft and vandalism at churches has been launched.

The scheme, set up by police, sees them and church leaders in Dudley sharing crime prevention advice to help make buildings less vulnerable.

They also work with the community to encourage residents and passers-by to remain vigilant. The scheme which has been trialled in Brierley Hill has been welcomed by church leaders. Many churches across the borough have been targeted by raiders and yobs who have left congregations with costly repair bills.

Among those who have signed up to the Church Watch scheme is St John the Evangelist Church, Brockmoor, Brierley Hill.

The church, off High Street, was attacked when vandals destroyed headstones and crosses in the 19th century churchyard.

More than £14,000 damage was caused during the late-night attack in September.

St John's vicar, the Rev Steve Martin, said the church had been forced to close the burial ground to protect remaining graves.

"It was mindless vandalism. St John's is a community church so an attack on the churchyard is an attack on the community.

"Church Watch is a very good idea. We are also setting up a youth project which the police are helping us with," he added. For more information email brierleyhill@westmidlands.pnn.police.uk

Councillor gets his gong

A TOWN councillor from Bewdley who helps save lives as a community first responder has received his MBE. Paul Gittins, aged 65, has been awarded the honour for his service to the community, including as a first responder with the ambulance service and 19 years as a town councillor.

Mr Gittins, thought it was a hoax when he first received the letter. He said: "It was like winning the lottery and it was only when I looked at the envelope and the Home Office stamps that it was suddenly real."

Guide Davy is well gnome



Ranger Davy Turner launches his new book 'The BodenGnomes'

HE is well gnome as a tour guide and Davy Turner, from Dudley is enjoying life playing one of the mythical creatures at Bodenham Arboretum.

The 59-year-old ranger regularly dresses in full gnome attire, with a pointed hat and beard, and gives talks to parents and children about the history of the BodenGnomes, who live in the park alongside ordinary woodland gnomes.

Now, Mr Turner, from Kingswinford, is on the verge of releasing his first children's book, which tells of how the creatures came to live in the arboretum.

He said: "I wrote a book many years ago about the movies of Robin Hood but this is my first attempt at writing a children's book. The release date has been set for April

Fool's day. Some people have even teased that I'm the Midlands Enid Blyton."

Mr Turner has been a part-time tour guide at the attraction on the outskirts of Kidderminster for three years, after he was approached by employers to take part in the annual gnome hunt.

His book is available to buy from the arboretum and a percentage of its sales will go to Children in Need appeal.

Mr Turner will be on hand to meet and greet fans of the book on the day from 10am. Details and a map of this year's gnome hunt, on June 1, can be found at the visitor centre or by visiting www.bodenham-arboretum.co.uk.


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Police hunting for man in connection with attack



Alan Davies

DETECTIVES issued a photograph of a man suspected of breaking into a house and attacking a woman inside.

Police want to trace 20-year-old Alan Davies about the assault which left the woman, aged 19, with head and facial injuries. The attack happened at an undisclosed property, in Lye, on February 9.

Officers say the person who broke in was known to the victim.

Det Sgt Craig Harris, of Dudley Police public protection unit, urged people to come forward and help trace Mr Davies.

He said: "We want to hear from anyone who knows where Alan is, as we need to speak to him as part of our investigation into this assault."

"The victim's injuries were fairly serious and we urge people to help us trace the suspect, where possible."

Anyone with information is urged to phone the police non-emergency line 101.

Beth works on album



Beth Sherburn

A SHOPWORKER from Dudley, whose life was changed by a music producer, says she will release her second single in May.

Beth Sherburn, of Lower Gornal, saw her first single – a cover of Duran Duran's Ordinary World – reach number nine on the official UK charts.

Now the dance-pop singer, of Kingsley Road, is working on her second effort but has yet to decide on a title for the song.

The 21-year-old said: "I don't know what it will be called yet because I'm still getting my ideas together on the song."

"The past few months have been so busy with interviews and photo shoots and things so I'm just trying to devote as much time as I can to writing my songs."

Beth is also hoping to release her first

album in August or September. She said: "I've done about six or seven of the songs and an album usually has 12 or 13 so I'm getting there." Beth's songs are based on her own experience – whether it be her friends, relationships or a night out. She carries a dictaphone in her bag to record any surprise inspiration and then uses the piano to work on any song that might result.

Beth had always enjoyed singing and had grown up performing in school musicals and choirs but it wasn't until last December that she got her lucky break.

John McLaughlin, a producer who had worked with Westlife, was shopping at Debenhams in Merry Hill as perfume seller Beth sang a Christmas classic while working nearby. He immediately offered her a studio slot and days later he signed her to Purple Circle Records.

Concern at shop names

THE names of some newsagents in Dudley have been criticised by a community leader – who claims they give out the wrong message.

Dudley councillor Ray Burston spoke of his concerns over names such as Fags and Mags, Fags and Booze and Bargain Booze.

He said: "This sends out the wrong message not just in terms of regeneration but education too."

Councillor Hilary Bills, chairman of the council's licensing and safety committee, agreed but said it was not in the council's remit to act upon such business names.

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Assurance on fears over falling police numbers

POLICE are reassuring the community across Worcestershire, who are worried about falling officer numbers in the wake of plans to close stations across the county, including Bewdley, Stourport and Hagley.

West Mercia Police held a public meeting last week to discuss the proposed changes, which are part of £20 million Government budget savings. Under the plans, there will be no changes to the main station in Kidderminster but Stourport Police Station is expected to be relocated to the Civic Centre in New Street.

Both Bewdley and Hagley stations will become community policing posts.

Speaking to councillors and community groups, Chief Constable David Shaw outlined the proposals, which he said have been

built on the foundation of local policing.

He said: "There will be the same number of police officers as there were in 2003 and 2004.

"People were relatively safe then and I think they will be again, but I do understand why many members of the public are worried and I hope this meeting and the decisions we make will give them some reassurance.

"I am very confident, however, that police response times will be just as good as now."

Under the plans, there will be 11 patrol bases across West Mercia and 82 Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

In communities which are considered to be a priority policing area, there will be extra resources.

Den-the-Fish dies at 80



Dennis Lane

RETIRED greengrocer and fishmonger Dennis Lane – who used to do a roaring trade from his Dudley shop – has died aged 80.

"Den-the-Fish", ran Brewers Norton Stores in Stourbridge for around 40 years, taking it over from his wife Pauline's parents.

The Brewers family business, on the corner of Norton Road and Whittingham Road, had been trading for at least 150 years when it eventually closed in 1999. But Mr Lane then moved his fresh fish and seafood business to Kidderminster, supplying to the restaurant trade and getting up at 4.30am to buy his wares from Birmingham Wholesale Market.

Mr Lane and his wife still lived next to the old Brewers shop, now a hairdressers and beauty salon, and the couple celebrated their

61st wedding anniversary on February 9. Mr Lane, a former committee member at Stourbridge Golf Club and a keen follower of jazz music, was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2007 and died at the town's Mary Stevens Hospice on February 23.

Brewers shop was originally set up during the 19th century by Mrs Lane's grandfather Albert Brewer – at a time when the store and a farm were the only buildings in Norton Road. Mrs Lane's parents, Albert and Elsie, later ran Brewers as a general grocers and Post Office, which they kept going through the war years.

"My parents wanted to sell the business to go on a cruise so my husband said he would take it over and I agreed – provided he didn't want me to work in it," said Mrs Lane, aged 79. But I ended up working there for 40 years."

MP backs dog chips

STOURBRIDGE MP Margot James has backed plans for the compulsory microchipping of dogs.

It follows a visit to Blakes Vets in Pedmore Road, Lye where she spoke to staff about the new legislation. From April 6, 2016, all dog owners will be required to fit their dog with a free microchip.

The policy is aimed at tackling the problem of stray dogs and to make it easier for owners to be reunited with their pets. Ms James said, more than 100,000 dogs are abandoned or lost every year, costing taxpayers and welfare charities £57 million.

MP congratulates improved school



Margot James MP, with, from left, chairman of IEB Julie Jasper, principal Deane Baker, headboy Josh Batth and headgirl Abigail Bills, both aged 15, at Thorns college

STOURBRIDGE MP Margot James visited a secondary school to congratulate teachers and students on their success after emerging out of special measures.

The status of Thorns Community College in Stockwell Avenue, Brierley Hill, was changed by Ofsted inspectors last month after they published a glowing report on the school's improvement.

The school had been put in special measures following a critical inspection two years ago. In the wake of the school coming out of special measures, the MP visited the college to speak to teachers and students about the recent improvement.

She said: "I am pleased Thorns Community College has been taken out of special measures. I know that a concerted effort has been made by everyone at Thorns to raise standards at the college, and this news is a reflection of that work."

Progress

"So I'd like to pass on my congratulations to all the teachers, staff and pupils. I look forward to seeing Thorns continue its good progress in the coming months and years."

Principal Deane Baker said: "We were very pleased that Margot took time out of her very busy schedule to see for herself the huge improvement and progress Thorns has made in the last year and also to offer her support for the work in raising the aspirations of students and encouraging the gift and talents." The 1,250 pupil school was visited by Ofsted inspectors on December 4 and 5.

It highlighted vast improvements in the behaviour and attitudes of children, putting them down to strong leadership. Teaching was also found to have improved significantly, and students' achievement was getting better.

Reception to raise diseases awareness

REPRESENTATIVES from a Stourbridge charity have attended a reception at the Houses of Parliament to raise awareness of rare diseases.

Claire Hennessey and Julie Wootton, from Max Appeal, were invited to the event by the town's MP Margot James to discuss their work. It was hosted by Rare Disease UK which brings together patients and their families as well as health professionals.

Miss James, who is a patron of the rare disease charity FOP Action, has also raised the issue of funding for research into rare conditions in Parliament.

Julie Wootton said: "It was an enjoyable event with a good range of speakers providing both a clinical perspective and personal stories, which helped to paint a complete picture of the complexity, and issues, associated with rare disorders." Miss James added: "It is important that we do all we can to raise awareness and understanding."

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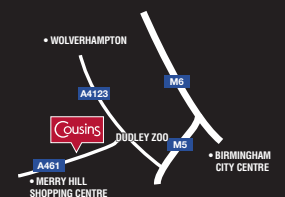
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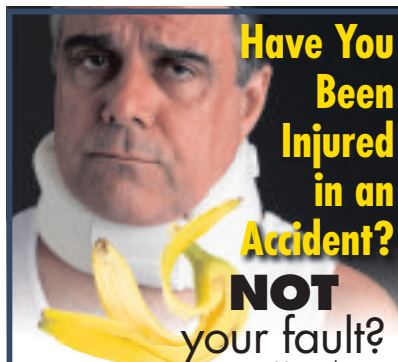
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NEWS

Bishop calling to get rid of planned bedroom tax

DUDLEY'S bishop is calling on the Government to axe the so-called bedroom tax and benefit caps to rescue struggling mothers.

Around 60,000 people in the West Midlands - 3,842 of them in Dudley and 758 in Wyre Forest - are likely to lose between £500 and £1,000 a year under housing benefits reforms, says the National Housing Federation.

The bedroom tax is the name given to Work and Pensions Secretary Iain Duncan Smith's reform which will see the Government claw back payments from people in social rented or council housing if they have one or more spare rooms.

The Bishop of Dudley, the Rt Rev David Walker, speaking about the hardships faced by mums, said: "There are a number of things that could be done - one would be to get rid of the bedroom tax and another to get rid of the caps on benefits."

"People, including mothers, are having to come cap in hand for charity all the time. "Five to six years ago food banks were unheard of - but it's a big operation now."

"Soon housing benefit, which used to be paid directly to the landlord, will be given to people in a lump sum with other benefits - so budgeting will be an added strain, having to make it last and putting enough aside for rent, the electricity bill and so on. "It's a lot to ask of people already struggling."

Tractor benchmark backed

AN MP says families should ensure they buy meat displaying the Red Tractor symbol to support British Farmers. Wyre Forest MP Mark Garnier met representatives of the National Farmers' Union in Worcestershire where high on the list of topics for discussion was the ongoing horse meat scandal. Mr Garnier said: "The horse meat scandal highlights how important it is that we know what we are eating."

Artwork for anniversary



From left, Osama Mohamed, Alfie Harris, both aged nine, and Laila Kaid, 10, at Halesowen CofE Primary School, with work marking the anniversary CHILDREN at a Halesowen school have begun a year of celebrations for its 175th anniversary by making art and craftwork through the ages. Some of the youngsters at Halesowen Church of England Primary have produced rag-rugging as well as the papier mache and clay models. Others have come straight into the 21st century by making digital drawings and animations. Their work was on show in the "Make Your Mark" exhibition at St John's Church, Queensway, Halesowen town centre. "We wanted them to produce different kinds of artwork covering techniques spanning all 175 years of the school," said headteacher Angela Hannaway. "It's the start of a year's worth of celebrations."

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But I'll never forget the impact they had on me and my life.

They taught me not just about Churchill's achievements, but about what he inspired to the British people to achieve during the Second World War.

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Fighting

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Dudley North Labour MP Ian Austin takes the stand in our weekly Chronicle column which gives our local representatives the chance to air their views

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In the Holocaust, when other countries rounded up their Jews and put them on trains to the gas chambers, Britain provided a safe haven for tens of thousands of refugees.

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It is this era - described by Churchill as our nation's finest hour - that defines Britain today and gives us the right to claim for our nation a special and unique attachment to the

values of democracy and freedom.

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And it is our unique and historic commitment to these values that I believe makes us the greatest nation on earth.

The 17 stained glass panels of the memorial were designed by world-renowned artist Edward Bainbridge Copnall and unveiled in 1969.

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weather and then by vandalism, the panels' condition deteriorated until they were eventually removed.

They were taken down, packed into small boxes and transported to the cellar of Himley Hall where they've been gathering dust ever since.

In two years time, Britain will commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of Churchill's death.

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Restoring the panels now would make them a permanent memorial, using new techniques developed since the 1960s to ensure the mural is not dogged by the problems which affected it first time around.

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MEMORY LANE



Wilde's Garage on the High Street in the 1940s



Staff working at the Quasi Arc company in Moxley in the 1950s



How the High Street in Moxley looked back in the 1950s



Local historian Bill Moorwood

Moxley is remembered in historian Bill's book

IT HAD always been Bill Moorwood's dream to write a book about Moxley – the area he was brought up in and loved.

When the chairman of Moxley History Society died part way through writing his nostalgic book, his friends and family vowed they would see his work in print.

Members of the history society came together to continue his hard work on the book, called Moxley and Its People, compiling information and photographs with help from former Moxley folk living as far away as Australia and America.

Now, almost five years on, the book has been printed and is in great demand.

Fred Gleeson, manager of Moxley People's Centre, said: "Everyone is so proud and over the moon to have been able to complete Bill's book in his memory. We can't thank Bill's family enough for all their help and the people of Moxley for helping bring this book about."

by Catherine Dalton

The 76-page book includes 53 photographs of characters and scenes well known on the streets of Moxley in days gone by.

It features pictures such as Arthur Neachelle outside his grocer's shop in the 1930s; Wilde's Garage, in High Street, as it looked in the 1940s; images of the High Street in the 1950s; and workers from Quasi Arc in the 1940s.

Son

It also includes a foreword written by Mr Moorwood's son Andrew, who now lives in California. He wrote that his father, who was a radio mechanic in the RAF and later worked as an electrician for Joseph Sankey, wanted to "leave a record of places and events that he thought were important but would be lost unless somebody did something about it".

Mr Gleeson said writing a book about Moxley had been a dream of Mr Moorwood's since the 1980s.

"Bill got in touch with me at a time when Moxley was getting a bit of bad press and a lot of buildings were being knocked down to make way for the Black Country Route."

"He said 'what are we going to do about it?' He came to see me and we set up Moxley History Society."

"He told me he'd had this idea of doing a book about Moxley back in the 1980s and some of the characters who lived there but it had sort of gone on the backburner."

"So the group, led by Bill, started to put the book together. Unfortunately, in 2008 Bill became ill and we promised we would finish the book for him."

Moxley History Society, led by new chairman Dave Butler-Hollington, worked to compile the book, which was the printed with the help of Barry Sutton, of Cannock-based Brownhills Asphalt and Tarmac.

Mr Moorwood's widow Edna helped to launch the book at an official ceremony. It costs £5 and can be bought at Moxley Peoples Centre, in Queen Street, or at the newsagents in Kendrick Road.



Phil Henderson, Barry Sutton, Kal Rehman, Fred Gleeson, Dave Butler-Hollington carry on Bill's work

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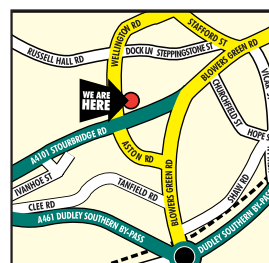
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CLUB NEWS

Tea towels are the talk of meeting

KINGSWINFORD LADIES SOCIAL CIRCLE

FEBRUARY was the first meeting of 2013 and chairman Audrey Phipps gave her best wishes to the members and welcomed the speaker.

The secretary gave minutes of the November meeting.

Thank you letters have been received from The British Legion and The White House, Dudley, for the £80 donations the club has made to The Poppy Appeal and Cancer Support.

Edna Summers has sent a letter of thanks and is making a good recovery.

The treasurer's report shows a good bank balance at the end of January. The monies made by Val and Joan at the luncheons and sales table in the last two years will be used to purchase a microphone for the speakers. Ann read a thank you letter from the Fistula Hospital organisation.

The speaker was Fiona Lucas who gave a lively talk Tea towels from around the world. She received her first one 28 years ago for her bottom drawer and now has a collection of 180. Each of the 14 colourful towels which she brought in represented a country she, or a friend, had visited. There was always an amusing or informative tale attached to each one.

Many of Fiona's travels were made with the Girl Guides so we also gained an insight into the workings and achievements of that organisation.

Preparing for the Easter craftwork

Fight to end polio

MEMBERS raised £730 on Rotary Day 23 February 23 from collections at Coop Superstore, Sedgley, and Sainsbury's Superstore Wombourne.

The money to go towards the eradication of polio.

President Tony Brown said: "Rotary Day is a fitting day to raise funds and focus attention on Rotary International's global campaign, End Polio Now."

"Since 1985, Rotarians around the globe have raised over US\$1.2 billion dollars and spent millions of volunteer hours vaccinating children in countries affected by this crippling disease."

The fight to end polio is led by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which includes Rotary

SEDGLEY AND WOMBOURNE ROTARY

International, UNICEF, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, governments around the world and many others.

Global immunizations have had a huge impact with the result that the number of new polio cases – a disease which once paralyzed more than 1,000 children every day – has dropped more than 99 per cent since the 1980s.

Rotarian Alan Peace said: "Our aim is to help fund ongoing vaccination campaigns to protect children from paralysis."

"This will take lots of vaccine, lots of volunteer hours and lots of money."

WORDSLEY M TWG

THE February meeting was opened by chairman of the day Liz Hubbard, who welcomed visitors and a number of members attending the first meeting of the year.

The minutes of the previous group meeting, prepared by secretary Liz Moseley, were signed and Josie Bunn, treasurer, gave a detailed review of the accounts and read out a letter of thanks from our Christmas entertainers who received a donation for the Macular Degeneration Society.

There will be a craft workshop, making an Easter bunny, at the Ruskin Centre, Amblecote, on March 23.

The Lunch Club's birthday lunch on April 22 at the Himley Best Western Hotel.

Garden and coffee mornings will resume in April.

The theatre group will be a matinee on March 23 of the musical High Society at Brierley Hill Civic Hall.

Talk proves food for thought

THE February meeting was opened by our chairman Doreen Armstrong, who welcomed members and our speaker for the day Mrs Pat Green.

Doreen said she was pleased to see members again as our January meeting had to be cancelled due to bad weather.

Mrs Green's talk was Food Through The Ages.

Our ladies were fasci-

BLACKHEATH M TWG

nated when she told us about some of the strange menus served during the years, bearing in mind she was talking about England.

To mention a few, squirrels, snakes, small birds, moles and other wildlife seemed to be very popular.

The most unbelievable was a meal for the Roman gentry during their occupa-

tion of our country – stuffed dormouse.

Please don't try it today, they are protected species.

She ended by telling us that we, in this country, spend £90bn a year on take-away foods. A vote of thanks was given by Iris Harris.

The next meeting is the AGM on Wednesday March 27 at the Moose Hall, Beeches Road, Blackheath, at 10.30am.

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COMMERCIAL FEATURE



Students pictured performing at Castle High's Acoustic Night



Helping others – one group of students shows its items collected for the local community

An ambitious programme of revision and trips to inspire

AS Year 11 students begin the final stage of their studies at Castle High, everyone's attention at the school is turned towards the finishing touches which need to be in place between now and the summer examinations.

Staff have already planned an

ambitious programme of revision classes to take place over the coming weeks to ensure that all students are fully prepared for the demanding weeks ahead.

Many Year 11 students have also found time to be part of the many activities which have taken place at Castle High this term. They were heavily involved in a recent acoustic night which brought together a host of the school's musical performers to

play together unplugged for an audience of parents, staff and fellow students. In addition they have found time to support the various sports teams running in school, to promote forthcoming events to raise money for Comic Relief and to rehearse for a forthcoming Expressive Arts showcase.

"I am constantly amazed at the energy, commitment and enthusiasm of our students," says

Michelle King, head teacher for Castle High School and Visual Arts College, Dudley.

"Not only those in Year 11 but throughout the school. Their dedication to raising money for charity is always inspiring, they support our extensive extra-curricular programme tirelessly and they are always ready for new challenges."

For Year 11, the next challenge is this summer's examinations.

But before that, they are taking part in a visit to London which will take place at the end of this term to reward them for their efforts and also to enrich the studies which they are undertaking. Activities planned include a dance session at Pineapple Studios, visits to various galleries and museums, a tour of Wembley Stadium and the opportunity to go behind the scenes at Madame Tussauds.

Great expectations of a head teacher

"THERE is a long tradition of staff giving up time during their holidays and weekends to see that their students go into their exams as ready as they can be" says Michelle King, head teacher for Castle High School and Visual Arts College, Dudley.

"It's just one of the many ways in which we support our young people to succeed in the best way that they can."

Such support is key to the school's ongoing improvement and the overall rise in examination passes over the last three years.

Heart

There has been an ambitious programme of refurbishment in the school with the student learning experience at the heart of it.

Furthermore, additional staff have been recruited to ensure that class sizes remain low and there has been a strengthening of support systems to ensure that student progress is tracked effectively and the welfare of each child monitored. Miss King is unrelenting in her expectations of her staff and their students.

"We expect even better results this year. We know that we have the right support systems in place to enable students to realise their ambitions and go from here to college or into training fully prepared for the next stage of their education. "Our expectations are high and the students know that."



Head teacher Michelle King pictured at the opening of the school's art exhibition at Dudley Art Gallery

Castle High School and Visual Arts College

"A welcoming school at the heart of the community"
Ofsted 2012

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"Parents and carers are confident that their children are well taught and inspectors concur with this."
Ofsted 2012

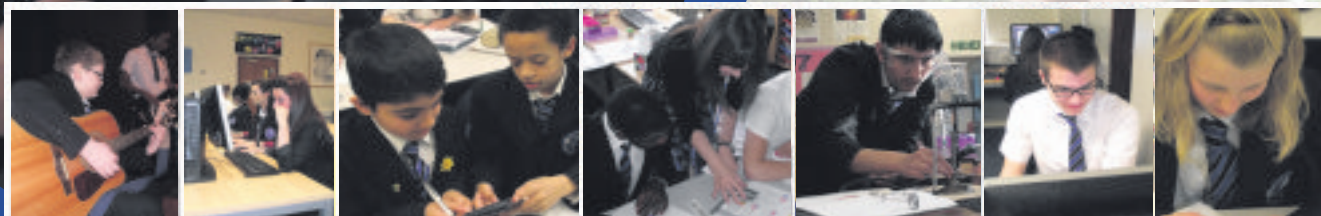
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COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Support leading to success for school

LAST year saw quite possibly the most exciting 12 months yet at the Coseley School.

GCSE results in the summer saw a massive 87 per cent achieve five A*-C, placing Coseley 11th in the borough of Dudley.

High quality, enthusiastic teaching is of paramount importance in improving students' learning and achievements.

This, supported by an inspiring and varied curriculum, has resulted in a dramatic rise in standards over the years.

The quality of relationships between staff and students remains a top priority and one of the keys to continued development.

Aspirations

High aspirations and raised expectations have contributed greatly to the progress made by students of all levels of ability and the strong tutor system ensures students receive the appropriate care and guidance.

Students have a positive attitude to learning and are proud of their school.

Many students will have benefitted from early examination entry and successfully gained GCSEs by the time they reach the end of Year 10.

A great example of this is Michael Webb who is an extremely gifted mathematician. He achieved A* at GCSE maths in Year 8, passed additional maths in Year 9 and is on the way to achieving his AS level in Year 10.

A team of student mediators has been set up and the key role for this team is



Student mediators have been an asset to the school in supporting younger pupils intervention work where other students have difficulties or problems, whether with school work or personally.

This mentoring and support is proving a great asset to the school. There is also a team of gifted students helping others with their reading.

These reading buddies will work with all age groups. This term has also seen the opening of a purpose built 'reading shack' which provides a relaxed and informal setting for those wishing to read inde-

pendently. Particularly for boys, it's not always perceived as 'cool' to read and so this shack provides a space to do so away from the crowd.

The school continues to have strong links with partner primary schools and has worked with a number of them offering enrichment activities and workshops, therefore promoting a more joined up transition for pupils moving into Year 7 at Coseley.

Pupils from local primary schools



Tom Paskin is the assistant head boy enjoyed a visit to the school pantomime 'The Wizard of Oz' this year.

This very entertaining show was sold out for both nights and received rapturous applause from an enthusiastic audience.

Also, a selection Year 7 Innovate and Create pupils baked and sold cakes and raised £108.43.

Currently they are knitting small blankets and selling cakes, with proceeds going to the neo-natal unit at New Cross Hospital.



Hannah England of Team GB athletics team at London 2012 was on hand to present at the school's recent awards night

Setting stage for academic year

THE Olympic theme continued at Coseley during an awards evening when the guest of honour was Hannah England who was a successful member of Team GB athletics at London 2012.

She is recognised as one of the country's best female athletes and is an inspirational role model to the younger generation showing that hard work and dedication do bring rewards.

Headteacher Mrs A Elwiss said: "This very special evening celebrated the successes and

achievements of all our students across the wide spectrum of subjects offered here at The Coseley School."

The school is rightly proud of all its' students and the new motto 'Believe, Achieve, Excel' is a reflection of the way forward as it moves into 2013.

Coseley is proud to be a community school working hard to enable both students and local residents to benefit from the many opportunities on offer.

This was never better demonstrated than prior to the Olympics when a huge community event celebrated the passing of the torch relay.

This was a very successful day which really brought the local people and the school closer together.

BELIEVE ACHIEVE EXCEL

Looking for a September 2013 place for your child?

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BELIEVE ACHIEVE EXCEL

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Don't let Jack Frost bite, stay snug and well

As the winter weather continues to bite, Dudley Council's winter warmth scheme is offering help to residents to keep warm and well in their homes.

The severe weather causes problems for us all but especially for older and vulnerable people. The cold weather we are experiencing can lead

to a stay in hospital or claim the life of someone with heart or breathing problems.

As the weather continues to worsen the council, health

services and local charities are working hard to ensure that people at most risk get the advice and support they need to stay safe and warm in their homes.

The winter warmth scheme aims to keep people who may be

struggling to keep warm at home, cosy and snug, through the range of help available. The scheme provides a variety of practical hand-on support, information and expert advice.

Anyone concerned about keeping their home warm, struggling with paying their fuel bills or worried about keeping well at home during the winter can ask for help from the scheme.

The scheme will also arrange for local volunteers to make regular 'befriending' checks on people who may be at risk of becoming isolated during cold weather. They can help out with shopping trips, collecting prescriptions, dog walking or helping with transport, if needed.

Councillor Steve Waltho, cabinet member for adult social care, said:

"Every year we have people who are ill or lose their lives because of the cold weather. This worsens

Sleeping in a cold room can make you ill... we can help

Winter warmth

Each winter up to 200 people in Dudley Borough die as a result of being too cold in their home. Sleeping in a cold room isn't just uncomfortable it can put pressure on your breathing, heart and circulation leading to heart attacks and strokes.

Don't risk your health this winter, our winter warmth fund is here to help, we want people to keep warm, snug and well.

Winter warmth provides free practical support and advice to keep you and your home warm. Things like help with paying fuel bills, energy efficiency grants, emergency heaters, even support for older people struggling to get out.

If you or anyone you know may be at risk of getting cold this winter, please give us a call.

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Winter warmth support

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when the weather is as bad as we are experiencing now and simply spending a couple of minutes checking older neighbours and family members are keeping warm in their homes, eating hot meals and have a supply of their medication is vital".

Last year's winter warmth support scheme helped almost 250 households to keep warm. Portable heaters, blankets and hot water bottles were provided through crisis funding, people were assisted with their energy debts, and helped to switch to the best energy supplier and tariff for their circumstances. People were also helped with applications to the warm homes discount (which helps people with their winter fuel bills) and to energy trust funds.

The winter warmth support helpline is 01384 817086.

What's On! Dudley

Male choir ready to sing in concert

THE Gentlemen Songsters Male Voice Choir is performing their spring concert at Dudley Town Hall on Saturday March 23 at 7.30pm.

The performance is compared by Susie Riddell, who plays Tracy Horrobin in Radio 4's Archers) and featuring Jean Martyn who was Britain's Got Talent finalist in 2011.

Other guests are Cotwall End Primary School Choir. Tickets are £10.

Unmythable tales of Greek stories

ALL the greatest Greek myths in just one hour will be on show at Unmythable, a performance with theatre, storytelling and song.

The journey through the greatest Greek myths will include Midas, the Odyssey and what really happened in that wooden horse.

The performance is at Stourbridge Town Hall on Friday March 15 at 1.30pm. Tickets are £7.

Fureys bringing a touch of Ireland

IRISH folk legends The Fureys & Davey Arthur will be appearing for a special 'St Patrick's' weekend concert at Dudley Town Hall on Saturday March 16.

Renowned for their hit songs I will love you, When you were sweet 16 and The Green fields of France, the band will be on stage from 7.30pm. Tickets are £20.

You'll be feline groovy at the purr-fect escapist musical

ONE of the most popular musicals in West End and Broadway history is back on the road. The Memory will be just as sweet when Cats invade Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre on Tuesday, March 19, running until Saturday, March 30.

Only The Phantom of the Opera - which also has a touring version in the region, at Birmingham Hippodrome until May 4 - has enjoyed a longer run on Broadway.

With its incredible costumes, feline choreography and standout song Memory, as sung by tragic Grizabella, musical fans will welcome back a classic show not seen in the UK since 2008.

Andrew Lloyd-Webber's blockbuster is based on TS Eliot's Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats, introducing an array of character cats.

Disco
The emphasis is on tramping when Jason Donovan reprises his West End role as Tick in disco-tastic Priscilla Queen of the Desert, the Aussie musical about the exploits of a group of drag queens. It's at Birmingham New Alexandra Theatre from Monday, March 18, to Saturday, March 30.

For a drama alternative, Birmingham writer Robin French moves Ibsen's Hedda Gabler to Edgbaston for Heather Gardener at the Old Rep from tonight (Thursday) to March 28.



Oliver Savile as the Rum Tugger in Cats

Welsh rockers return to the Civic



Get your gladrags and, if you wish, handbags because The Stereophonics are back

THE Stereophonics are roaring back with a strong new album, Graffiti On The Train, released last week, to be road tested on a tour including a sold out gig at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Saturday night.

If that is half as good as their last blistering performance at the venue, it could be one of city's best gigs of the year.

Kelly Jones and co have toured the world over 17 years and achieved five chart-topping albums, including 2008's million-selling 'best of A Decade In The Sun'.

Their eighth album is their first since quitting a major label and setting up their own Stylus Records. The album is based on screenplay by singer and guitarist Kelly Jones about the aftermath of a tragic accident and combines their familiar melodic rock style, like new single Indian Summer, with new ideas.

For a band that have played at the Millennium Stadium and Hyde Park Live 8, the Civic will seem like an intimate gig.

Monk on the cold trail of dark deeds

Cadfael
Grand Theatre
Wolverhampton

THE crime-solving monk is back. Brother Cadfael's sleuthing skills have been brought to Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre.

The Virgin in the Ice is a tale of confusion, missing persons and intrigue set in England's darkest age.

The tale revolves around a cold English winter in the 12th century where violent gangs roam the countryside, two young nobles are lost and suspected dead when a body is found and Cadfael steps in to help find the killer.

This production was not the slickest thing with scenery wheeled on as actors began their lines and despite the stage hands cloaked in monks outfits it seemed a little unorganised.

This combined with one of the most comical slow motion swordfights I have ever seen, made it a bit painful to watch at times.

However, the plot was good with plenty of twists and the cast were all excellent each giving a sterling performance, particularly Gareth Thomas (Cadfael) who bought the role, played so well by Derek Jacobi on TV, to life on stage.

For those that love the original program this will be a welcome return, but for those who are less familiar with the series may struggle with the slow plot line.

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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 16.03.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



Winston Churchill

Churchill and the Fascist Plot

Channel 4, 7pm

In May 1940, Britain was facing the prospect of a Nazi invasion. Winston Churchill didn't just have Hitler to worry as there was also a threat from Britain's own fascist sympathisers: the "fifth column" that could erode Britain's war effort from within. Days after Churchill became Prime Minister, MI5 descended on central London, keen to question members of The Right Club, an organisation and pro-Nazi society led by Archibald Ramsay MP. The aristocrat's organisation wanted to create an alliance with Hitler.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Nigel Slater's Simple Cooking. (R) 12.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 12.15 Football Focus. 1.00 Formula 1 - Australian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. 2.05 Live Six Nations Rugby Union. 4.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union. 7.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 7.15 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present a star-studded version of the unorthodox general knowledge quiz. (R) 8.00 The National Lottery: In it to Win It. Dale Winton presents the quiz in which five contestants pit their wits to scoop a big cash prize. Includes the National Lottery draws, presented by Myleene Klass. 8.50 Casualty. Jeff gets caught up in a marital dispute. Robyn breaches patient confidentiality and Linda tries to give a woman with a learning-disabled son some respite. 9.40 Mrs Brown's Boys. Trevor has decided to work for a mission project in Africa, so Agnes resolves to throw him an unforgettable send-off, while Cathy's family counselling session descends into chaos. (R) 10.10 BBC News; Weather. 10.30 Match of the Day. Including highlights of Everton v Manchester City; National Lottery Update. 11.50 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games, including Barnsley v Watford. 1.05 Weatherview. 1.10 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. 7.30 Great British Menu. (R) 8.00 Great British Menu. (R) 8.30 Great British Menu. (R) 9.00 Great British Menu. (R) 9.30 Great British Menu. (R) 10.00 A History of Britain by Simon Schama. (R) 11.00 Meet the Ancestors. (R) 11.30 Map Man. (R) 12.00 Country Show Cook Off. (R) 12.30 Country Show Cook Off. (R) 1.00 Country Show Cook Off. (R) 1.30 Country Show Cook Off. (R) 2.00 Country Show Cook Off. (R) 2.30 Mastermind. (R) 3.00 University Challenge. (R) 3.30 Flog It! 4.30 Final Score. 5.30 Great Continental Railway Journeys. 6.00 Dad's Army. Mainwaring's platoon tries to raise money for the local Spitfire fund by having a bash at morris dancing. (R) 6.30 Top Gear Africa Special - Part Two. Part two of two. Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May conclude their quest to find the source of the River Nile in Africa using three old estate cars. Last in the series. (R) 7.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union. France v Scotland (Kick-off 8.00pm). Gabby Logan presents coverage of the final match of this season's championship, held at the Stade de France. 10.00 Film: Africa United. (2010) Premiere. Three Rwandan children walk 3,000 miles to South Africa to attend the 2010 World Cup. Comedy, with Erya Ndayambaje. 11.20 Dancing on the Edge: Interviewing Louis. Companion piece to Stephen Poliakoff's drama, starring Chivette Ejor and Erya Ndayambaje. (R) 12.00 Film: Badlands. (1973) 1.50 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Mickey Mouse Clubhouse. 6.25 The Hive. (R) 6.35 The Hive. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Dino Dan. (R) 7.10 Caminatis. (R) 7.20 Caminatis. (R) 7.25 Bookaboo. 7.40 Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) 8.05 Ultimate Spider-Man. 8.30 Victorious. 9.00 Jessie. 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 10.20 My Tasty Travels with Lynda Bellingham. (R) 11.20 Dinner Date. (R) 12.20 ITV News; Weather. 12.30 Countrywise. (R) 12.50 You've Been Framed! (R) 1.20 Film: Mutiny on the Buses. (1972) 3.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. (R) 4.00 Midsomer Murders. (R) 6.00 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.15 ITV News; Weather. 6.30 New You've Been Framed! A fresh selection of comical clips. 7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. The duo go head to head in their latest challenge and play another undercover prank on an unsuspecting star. 8.20 The Cube. A sales assistant and a police officer try to complete a series of increasingly difficult tasks in the hope of winning a jackpot of £250,000. Phillip Schofield hosts. 9.20 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host chats to Doctor Who himself, Matt Smith, and Ruth Jones, the star and co-writer of Gavin & Stacey. Welsh rockers Stereophonics provide the music. 10.20 ITV News; Weather. 10.35 Film: Total Recall. (1990) Sci-fi thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. 12.45 Jackpot247. 3.00 In Plain Sight. (R) 3.45 ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 The Hoobs. (R) 7.00 Will & Grace. (R) 7.25 The Grid. 7.55 The Morning Line. 8.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.25 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.55 Frasier. (R) 10.30 Frasier. (R) 10.55 The Simpsons. (R) 11.25 The Simpsons. (R) 11.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.20 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.45 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 1.45 Channel 4 Racing. 4.15 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.45 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.15 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.50 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.20 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.45 Channel 4 News. 6.55 Thoughtful. 7.00 Churchill and the Fascist Plot. The story of pro-Nazi society the Right Club, led by Archibald Ramsay, an MP in Winston Churchill's own party who planned to undermine Britain's war effort from within. 8.00 Kevin McCloud's Man Made Home. The Grand Designs host introduces a touch of luxury to his handmade cabin, finding a unique solution for a hot tub and fashioning a robe out of alpaca wool. Last in the series. (R) 9.00 Film: 127 Hours. (2010) A mountain climber is trapped by a boulder in a remote canyon and reluctantly takes desperate measures to survive. Danny Boyle's fact-based drama, with James Franco and Kate Mara. 10.45 Big Fat Quiz of the 00s. Jimmy Carr tests six celebrities on their knowledge of the 2000s. (R) 12.20 Film: Once Upon a Time in America. (1984) 4.05 Hollyoaks.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.15 Power Rangers Samurai. (R) 10.50 Batman: The Brave and the Bold. 11.15 Inside Hollywood. 11.25 Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge. (R) 12.25 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.25 CSI: NY. (R) 2.20 CSI: Miami. (R) 3.10 CSI: Miami. (R) 4.05 Film: Private Benjamin. (1980) 6.10 5 News Weekend. 6.15 Film: Cumbria: Uneasy Lies the Crown. (1990) A dentist plans to poison his wife's lover and make it look like she killed him, but reckons without the attentions of the crumpled cop. Crime drama, with Peter Falk. 7.50 NCIS. The team tries to trace the history of a gun believed to have been used in a murder at a naval base, and the family of the child who found the weapon comes under suspicion. (R) 8.45 NCIS. CIA agent Trent Kort returns to track down a dangerous criminal, and Gibbs is forced to put his personal feelings aside to assist in the investigation. (R) 9.40 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. A photograph of a murder scene is leaked online. 10.35 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. A murder is linked to a community hospital. 11.35 True Crimes: The First 72 Hours. A man is suspected of murdering his wife. 12.05 SuperCasino. 4.00 HouseBusters. (R) 4.25 Divine Designs. (R) 4.50 County Secrets. (R) 5.05 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.15 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.40 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.50 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three 7.00 Merlin 7.45 Doctor Who 8.30 Film: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider (2001) 10.00 Grimm's Comic Relief Late Nighter 11.25 Family Guy **BBC Four** 7.00 Britain on Film: Dedicated Followers of Fashion 7.30 Nureyev - From Russia with Love 9.00 Spiral 4: State of Terror 11.10 Glen Campbell: The Rhinestone Cowboy **ITV2** 5.45 Film: Beethoven's 2nd (1993) 7.35 Film: Hulk (2003) Comic-strip adventure, starring Eric Bana. 10.20 Celebrity Juice: Hunks Special 11.10 Film: Knocked Out (2007) **ITV3** 3.35 Film: Summer Holiday (1963) 5.50 Agatha Christie's Poirot 6.55 Lewis. The death of an Oxford don leads to the shady underworld of unlicensed boxing. 9.00 Foyles War 11.00 Film: Air America (1990) **ITV4** 3.50 Film: Where Eagles Dare (1969) 6.55 TT Legends 7.30 GT Academy 8.00 How I Met Your Mother 8.30 2 Broke Girls 9.00 Film: Transporter 2 (2005) 10.50 The Big Bang Theory 11.45 The Cleveland Show **Film4** 2.45 The Thirty-Nine Steps (1959) 4.45 Love Happens (2009) 6.50 27 Dresses (2008) 9.00 Good Morning, Vietnam (1987) Comedy drama, starring Robin Williams. 11.25 Julia's Eyes (2010) Premiere. Thriller, starring Belen Rueda.

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 17.03.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



The Queen

Our Queen

ITV, 8pm
In the past 12 months, the Queen has celebrated her Diamond Jubilee, learned she was going to become a great-grandmother again, and parachuted into the Olympics. (Well, okay, she didn't really do that last one, but she did get to meet James Bond.) But how did the monarch really feel about her landmark year? This two-hour documentary should provide us with some insights as it follows the monarch over the course of 2012. But it's not all about the pageantry – there's also an examination of how the Queen manages with day-to-day demands.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 7.35 Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics: Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.20** Countryfile: A Royal Appointment. (R) **1.20** Call the Midwife. (R) **2.20** Formula 1 – Australian Grand Prix Highlights. **4.20** Comic Relief – The Best Bits. **5.20** Lifetime. 5.30 Songs of Praise. **6.05** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **6.30** Countryfile. The team heads to Lyme Bay on the Dorset and east Devon coast, where Julia Bradbury explores a rich geological history that has made it very popular with fossil hunters. **7.30** Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team travel to Chatham in Kent, where items include poison bottles and a gruesome spiked object believed to have been used to ward off highwaymen. Red button viewers can play along by guessing the valuations. **8.30** The Lady Vanishes. A socialite investigates the disappearance of a fellow train passenger – whom everyone else on board denies ever having seen. Mystery, starring Tuppence Middleton. **10.00** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **10.25** Match of the Day 2. A review of the day's Premier League matches, which were Sunderland v Norwich City, Tottenham Hotspur v Fulham, Chelsea v West Ham United and Wigan Athletic v Newcastle United. **11.45** Regional Programme. **12.15** The Apprentice USA. **1.00** Weather. **1.05** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **6.45** Film: Primrose Path. (1940) **8.15** Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **8.45** Gardeners' World. (R) **9.15** The A to Z of TV Gardening. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. (R) **12.00** EastEnders. (R) **1.55** Coast. **2.15** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **3.00** Restoration Home. (R) **4.00** Figure Skating: World Championships Highlights. **6.00** Food & Drink. A discussion on entertaining friends, with guest Rachel Khoo. Last in the series. (R) **6.30** Plog III. **7.00** Dragons' Den. A Welsh grandmother charms the Dragons as she tries to secure investment for her food website, while the usual rules of the Den are disregarded during a pitch for a haircare brand. (R) **8.00** Best of Top Gear. Highlights from the most recent series of the motoring magazine. **9.00** Toughest Place to Be a Farmer. A dairy farmer lives and works with tribesmen in Kenya. **10.00** Mock the Week Looks Back at Education. Highlights from the quiz show on the theme of education. **10.30** It's Kevin. New series. Comedy sketches and songs, starring Kevin Eldon. **11.00** Comic Relief – The Best Bits. Highlights from Friday's fundraising extravaganza. **12.00** Six Nations Rugby Union. **12.45** Film: Down in the Valley. (R) **3.35** Being Eileen. (R) **4.05** Comic Relief: Through Hell and High Water. (R) **5.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Mickey Mouse Clubhouse. **6.25** The Hive. (R) **6.35** The Hive. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Dino Dan. (R) **7.10** Canimals. (R) **7.25** Canimals. (R) **7.25** Bookaboo. **7.40** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **8.05** Rated A for Awesome. **8.15** Rated A for Awesome. **8.30** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **8.45** Almost Naked Animals. (R) **9.00** The Aquabats Super Show. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **11.25** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **12.10** ITV News: Weather. **12.15** Film: Carry On Don't Lose Your Head. (1966) **2.00** Doc Martin. (R) **3.00** Food Glorious Food. (R) **4.00** Agatha Christie's Marple. (R) **6.00** You've Been Framed! Comical clips, featuring an exploding beanbag. (R) **6.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.45** ITV News: Weather. **7.00** Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Best of Friends Special. With Sebastian Coe, Steve Cram, Louis Smith, Paul Hall, Sally Lindsay and Steve White. **8.00** Our Queen. Feature-length documentary filmed throughout 2012, providing a portrait of Elizabeth II during her Diamond Jubilee year. **10.00** Perspectives: David Suchet – The Mystery of Agatha Christie. New series. The Poirot star explores the life and work of the crime writer. **11.00** ITV News: Weather. **11.15** Anglo-Welsh Cup Rugby Union. Extended highlights of the final in Worcester. **12.15** The Store. **2.15** Monk. (R) **3.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** The Hoobs. (R) **7.05** Will & Grace. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.05** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.25** The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** The Simpsons. (R) **2.25** Film: Picture Perfect. (1997) **4.25** Time Team. **5.30** Deal or No Deal. **6.25** Channel 4 News. **6.55** 4thought.tv. As the UN warns that a global shift to a vegan diet is needed to save the world from hunger, members of the public consider whether it is morally wrong to eat meat every day. **7.00** Come Dine with Me. Former Miss Rugby Jade Hollis, film and TV extra Susan Gillis, recruitment boss Lee Bunting and academic Alan James compete for the £1,000 prize in Warwickshire. (R) **8.00** The Secret Millions. New series. Five celebrities work with charities developing innovative projects and covertly try to secure £2million in lottery funds to help turn ideas into reality. **9.00** Film: Salt. (2010) Premiere. A CIA agent goes on the run after she is accused of being a sleeper assassin sent to kill the Russian president. Action thriller, with Angelina Jolie. **11.00** Film: Sunshine. (2007) Sci-fi thriller, starring Cillian Murphy and Angelina Jolie. **1.00** How to Build a Bionic Man. (R) **1.55** Film: Silent Light. (2007) **4.15** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.00** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.45** Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowerets. (R) **6.25** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **6.30** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.45** Olive the Ostrich. (R) **6.50** Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.20** Animal Antics. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.30** Mio Mao. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Toby's Travelling Circus. **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Jelly Jamm. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. (R) **10.35** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.00** Inside Hollywood. **11.10** Once Upon a Time. (R) **12.05** Cowboy Builders. (R) **1.05** Film: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed. (2002) **2.50** Film: Sabrina the Teenage Witch. (1996) **6.10** 5 News Weekend. **6.15** Film: Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls. (1995) Comedy sequel, starring Jim Carrey. **8.00** Film: Legally Blonde. (2001) Comedy, with Reese Witherspoon and Luke Wilson. **10.00** Person of Interest. Carter gains further insight into Reese's secret life. **10.55** Film: The Long Kiss Goodnight. (1996) Action thriller, starring Geena Davis. **1.10** SuperCasino. **4.00** HouseBusters. (R) **4.25** Divine Designs. (R) **4.50** County Secrets. (R) **5.05** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.15** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.40** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes **7.10** Great Movie Mistakes IV: May the Fourth Be with You **8.10** Film: Lara Croft: Tomb Raider – The Cradle of Life (2003) **10.00** In the Flesh **11.00** Bluestone 42 **11.30** Family Guy **BBC Four**
7.00 The Many Faces of Les Dawson **8.00** Parks and Recreation **8.45** Minuscule: The Private Life of Insects **9.00** The Incredible Story of the Monarch Butterfly: Four Wings and a Prayer **10.00** Film: Apocalypse (2006) **ITV2**
3.15 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **4.35** Film: Richie Rich (1994) **6.25** Film: King Kong (2005) **10.00** The Only Way is Essex **10.50** Big Rich Texas **11.50** Celebrity Juice: Hunks Special **ITV3**
3.50 Cornwall with Caroline Quentin **4.50** Murder, She Wrote **5.50** Wycliffe **6.50** Agatha Christie's Poirot **8.00** Lewis **10.00** Film: The Elephant Man (1980) **ITV4**
3.55 Film: All Quiet on the Western Front (1930) **7.00** Fabrice Muamba: Sports Life Stories **8.00** Anglo-Welsh Cup Rugby Union **9.00** Film: Tremors (1989) **10.55** Film: Species: The Awakening (2007) **E4**
4.25 Revenge **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.30** New Girl **7.00** How I Met Your Mother **8.00** Film: Transformers (2007) **10.50** Rude Tube 2012 **11.50** The Body Shocking Show **Film4**
3.05 The Lady Vanishes (1979) **5.05** Aquamarine (2006) **7.10** Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer (2007) **9.00** Ghost (1990) **11.25** Don't Look Now (1973)

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY

Revolver, Channel 5, 11pm

A gambler endures a seven-year stint in solitary confinement after being set up by his deranged and dangerous former boss, a malevolent casino owner who also murdered his sister-in-law. On release he plans to exact a fitting revenge and sets out to bankrupt the villain, with the help of two enigmatic loan sharks. Guy Ritchie's crime drama, with Jason Statham, Ray Liotta, Vincent Pastore and Terence Maynard. (2005)

TUESDAY

The Year of Living Dangerously, BBC1, 12.15am

An idealistic Australian journalist is sent to chronicle the upheaval in 1960s Indonesia. He develops a romance with a British diplomat and plans to make his career by covering first-hand the coming revolution, only to become personally involved in the conflict. Peter Weir's political thriller, starring Mel Gibson, Sigourney Weaver, Bembol Roco and an Oscar-winning Linda Hunt in a male role. (1982)

WEDNESDAY

The Guardian, BBC1, 11.15pm

A distinguished coastguard is recruited to prepare the next generation of aspiring search and rescue specialists. He meets his match with a talented and troubled rookie – a high-school swimming champion who is determined to inherit the instructor's crown. However, throughout the rigorous training the pair forge a strong friendship and settle the struggle for authority. Drama, with Kevin Costner, Ashton Kutcher and Sela Ward. (2006)



Revolver, Monday, Channel 5, 11pm

THURSDAY

Murder 101: College Can Be Murder, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A criminology professor is suspicious when a colleague appears to have died from a heart attack, and teams up with a private detective to uncover the truth – and they discover the dead man had a number of enemies and harboured many secrets. The second in the series of murder mysteries, starring Dick and Barry Van Dyke alongside Kimberly Quinn and Jonathan Banks. (2007)

FRIDAY

Scream, BBC1, 11.50pm

The students of a high school are stalked by a masked knife-wielding maniac with a love of scary movies and a penchant for playing mind games with his prey. One of the girls on his hit list begins to suspect there is a connection between the killer and her mother's murder a year previously. Wes Craven's horror, which satirises the genre's clichés, starring Neve Campbell, David Arquette and Courtney Cox. (1996)

Pick of the Week

Iris desperately tries to keep things on track

Which novel has been filmed twice, once by a legendary director in 1938, and once by a legendary studio in 1979?

If all those film buffs out there are saying The Lady Vanishes, they'd be wrong – the original story was entitled The Wheel Spins. It was written by Ethel Lina White and first published in 1936.

It's almost 70 years since Ms White passed away, and in the decades since, Ms White and her works have largely been forgotten, despite the fact that in her day, she was once one of the most revered crime writers around.

Out of the many books she penned, The Wheel Spins has had the most mileage thanks to its movie adaptations.

The plot focuses on Iris, a carefree girl whose world comes crashing down around her when the middle-aged Miss Froy, with whom she has been spending time while travelling through 1930s Eastern Europe by train, suddenly disappears – and her fellow passengers deny she ever existed.

Only one person believes her, dashing English traveller Max. They work together to find Miss Froy, uncovering a dastardly plan in the process.

Kate Harwood, controller, series and serials, BBC Drama, seems particularly thrilled with the way the project has panned out: "Fiona Seres' adaptation of The Wheel Spins deftly weaves together the intriguing stories of a psychologically complex group of characters – with the mysterious disappearance of Miss Froy on a packed train – played out against the tense backdrop of the Balkans in the 1930s."

It was Alfred Hitchcock who first spotted the book's cinematic potential. He turned it into what is now regarded as a classic; it also helped turn its leading cast members, Margaret Lockwood and Michael Redgrave (in his screen debut) into major stars.

But for Hitch, it had an even bigger impact – the fact the movie became the most successful British venture up to that point gave him a calling card to Hollywood; two years later, after negotiating a lucrative Stateside deal,

he released his first Tinseltown project, Rebecca, and never looked back.

Sadly, the 1979 remake from a then failing Hammer Films didn't do quite so well. In fact, it's fair to say it was a massive flop; even the presence of US actors Elliot Gould and Cybill Shepherd couldn't save it. Afterwards, Hammer stopped making movies for almost 30 years.

So, will the BBC's new take on the story follow in the footsteps of Hitchcock, or its disastrous remake? Hopefully the former rather than the latter – the pedigree is certainly impressive.

Filming took place in Budapest last year, and the feature-length thriller had originally been expected to appear on our screens at Christmas. However, the Beeb has tantalised us by making us wait a wee bit longer.

Rising stars Tuppence Middleton and Tom Hughes play Iris and Max, while Keeley Hawes, Gemma Jones, Julian Rhind-Tutt and Selina Cadell also star. Fans of Borgen should watch out for Benedikte Hansen, who also appears.



Tuppence Middleton stars in The Lady Vanishes, Sunday, BBC1, 8.30pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

James Nesbitt's Ireland

ITV, 8pm

His medical drama Monroe may be no more, but with The Hobbit recently racking up \$1 billion worth of business, at least that's softened the blow for James Nesbitt. Playing Tolkien's dwarf Bofur in New Zealand may have seen the acclaimed star out of his comfort zone, but now he's literally back on more familiar turf for this new series. James takes cameras around famous landmarks and examines the history and culture of the Emerald Isle. First stop is Dingle, a town on the south-west coast. He meets brothers Shaun and Kieran Murphy who moved from the Big Apple a dozen years ago with their families to set up an ice-cream business. Blarney Castle and Co Cork are also on the to do list.

Rich and on Benefits: Channel 4 Dispatches Channel 4, 8pm

Chancellor George Osborne has said the Government needs to save £10 billion, and housing benefits, child tax credits, maternity pay and other benefits are all set to be capped. But while these measures will hit an estimated seven million working families, there's one group who seem to be exempt from the cost-cutting – pensioners. But is this a fair move, or is there a danger that we may be taking money from the poor to give it to people who don't actually need it? That's what Michael Buerk is on a mission to find out as he examines how well off some of Britain's pensioners really are, surveying OAPs across Britain to find out how they spend their welfare payments.

The Challenger

BBC2, 9pm

On January 28, 1986, the space shuttle Challenger exploded 73 seconds after take-off, killing everyone on board. Unsurprisingly a Presidential Commission was set up to explore what went wrong, but with the shuttle being one of the world's most complex machines, and with so many vested interests wrapped up in the investigation, finding the truth was a near-impossible challenge. However, if one man could get to the bottom of things it was scientist Richard Feynman, who had won a Nobel Prize for his breakthroughs in quantum physics. In this beautifully crafted drama examining his search for the truth, William Hurt delivers a top-drawer performance as Feynman.

TUESDAY

The Syndicate

BBC1, 9pm

After last year's hit debut, the second series of Kay Mellor's drama focuses on five hospital workers whose £14,000 a year might be transformed into £14million each thanks to lucky lottery numbers. The problem is, absent-minded nurse Becky (Natalie Gavin) has lost the winning ticket, so mum Mandy (Siobhan Finneran), Nurse Tom Bedford (Jimi Mistry), Porter Alan Walters (Mark Addy) and Auxiliary Rose Wilson (Alison Steadman) could see their dreams slipping through their fingers unless the ticket can be

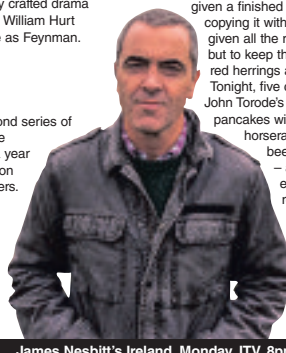
found. With £72million at stake, little wonder tempers are running high for the staff at St Anthony's Hospital. However, there are more headaches when it looks like there's another member of the syndicate.

WEDNESDAY

MasterChef

BBC1, 8pm

Regular viewers to the series will have noticed a new type of challenge introduced this time around. This ninth run of the culinary contest has included the difficult 'palate test', in which contestants are given a finished dish and tasked with copying it without a recipe. They're given all the required ingredients, but to keep things interesting a few red herrings are thrown in as well. Tonight, five contenders are given John Torode's dish of potato pancakes with smoked trout, horseradish cream and beetroot salad to emulate – after which, two are eliminated. The remaining three work a busy lunchtime service at London's Cadogan Hotel before cooking for John and Gregg Wallace, hoping to win a place in the quarter-finals.



James Nesbitt's Ireland, Monday, ITV, 8pm

THURSDAY

Home Delivery

ITV, 9pm

When it comes to giving birth, every woman is different, but as this documentary explains, many are going against convention and opting for a home delivery. Nobody knows this more than independent midwife Virginia, who cameras follow as she goes about her business, taking care of three couples and playing a part in bringing new life into the world. One of the couples, Julie and Anthony, are preparing for the arrival of their baby boy. Julie has had a difficult pregnancy with trapped nerves and pelvic pain but is planning a home delivery in an inflatable birthing pool, and is keen to have her other son present; something which wouldn't be allowed in hospital.

FRIDAY

Live International Football

ITV, 7.30pm

England's quest to qualify for the 2014 World Cup continues as they travel to face San Marino at the Stadio Olimpico in Serravalle, for their fifth match of the campaign. Having won two and drawn two thus far, anything less than a victory in this contest will be seen as a disaster for Roy Hodgson's men, especially given that San Marino have failed to register a point or score a goal from their first four fixtures. The sides have already met on one occasion with the reverse clash having taken place at Wembley Stadium last October, which saw the hosts eventually ease to a 5-0 victory after an initial frustrating opening to the contest.

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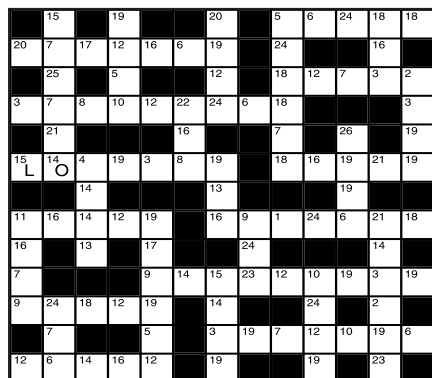
What's On!

Brain Gym

No.212

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

W	E	F	B	T	Z	K	Y	H	M	A	Q	N
C	I	L	P	O	V	U	X	R	D	S	J	G

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

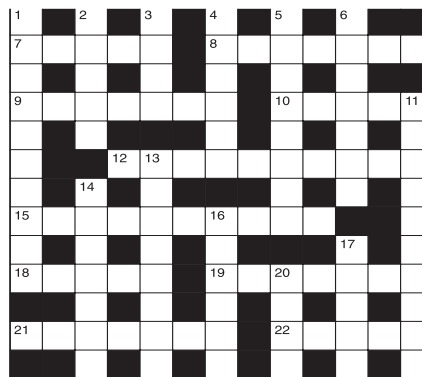
Cryptic Clues:

Across

7. See 17 Down
8. Throw out a proposed scheme (7)
9. Obstruction to trade - but amber changes to the green light! (7)
10. This finishes off the letter with a flourish (5)
12. Mere agents could make them (10)
15. They jog one's memory about a number of books left unsold (10)
18. Classifies varieties (5)
19. An imposing place to live, but you'll find the fellow is no different (7)
21. I'll be in offstage area ready to act (7)
22. Rocky shelf where the toboggan loses its top (5)

Down

1. Pursuing those with guardians at a later date (10)
2. But when they are planted they don't make the soil light! (5)
3. A bit of unrest, I realise, is created by the agitator (4)
4. Object to a little work and set a problem (6)
5. He takes down what has been produced (8)
6. Sea-food - that's what the married woman puts on (7)
11. having obtained it from him! (10)
13. Contradicted - manages to get help (8)
14. Green may be seen in the ring (7)
16. Result of vandalism - mother gets a long stretch of time (6)
17 & 7 Ac. Discovers a geological feature, but shows dissatisfaction (5,5)
20. Nothing must take precedence over eastern river (4)



Quick Clues:

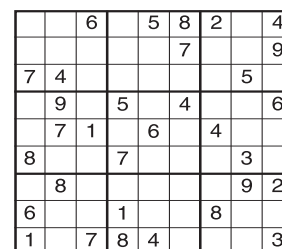
Across

7. Bend (5)
8. Truck (7)
9. Gratify (7)
10. Young eel (5)
12. Nobleman (10)
15. Trifle (10)
18. Tag (5)
19. The devil (7)
21. Restraint (7)
22. Fear (5)

Down

1. Western (10)
2. Rank (5)
3. In good health (4)
4. Accent (6)
5. Leading (8)
6. Bondage (7)
11. Degenerating (10)
13. Banter (8)
14. Disperse (7)
16. Small (6)
17. Guide (5)
20. Fashion (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

6	7	8	1	4	3	9	2	5
1	3	2	9	6	5	4	8	7
9	4	5	7	8	2	1	6	3
3	5	3	2	7	9	6	4	1
2	1	7	4	5	6	3	9	8
4	9	6	8	3	1	7	5	2
3	8	1	6	2	4	5	7	9
5	2	4	3	9	7	8	1	6
7	6	9	5	1	8	2	3	4

LAST WEEK'S CRYPTOGRAM SOLUTION:
The letter represented by the question mark is A. Waterloo, Vauxhall, Victoria, all stations on the London Underground.
LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 At the last; 8 Age; 9 Endorsement; 11 Remarks; 12 Allot; 13 Minute; 15 Closed; 17 Motor; 18 Airways; 20 Adventurers; 22 Rot; 23 Street-car. Down: 2 Ten; 3 Error; 4 Averse; 5 Toe-nail; 6 Rattlesnake; 7 Neap-tides; 10 Demonstrate; 11 Reminders; 14 Thrives; 16 Banner; 19 Route; 21 Spa. QUICK - Across: 1 Newspaper; 8 Own; 9 Implication; 11 Ferment; 12 Error; 13 Accord; 15 Stable; 17 Comet; 18 Visitor; 20 Alter course; 22 Sin; 23 Stevedore. Down: 2 Elm; 3 Prize; 4 Plants; 5 Raiment; 6 Contributor; 7 Underwear; 10 Part company; 11 Franchise; 14 Rotates; 16 Averse; 19 Slope; 21 Sir.



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Broadfield Close is a sought-after area of distinctive detached houses and bungalows which is approached from Stream Road, and the property is conveniently located for schooling and the centre of Kingswinford with its wide selection of shops, restaurants and other amenities.

On the ground floor is a refitted guest cloakroom with white suite of WC and wash hand basin, while the lounge - 19ft by 12ft 3in - has a feature fireplace with gas log effect fire and doors to a dining room measuring 15ft by 12ft 9in and with a door to a shower cubicle.

There is also a sitting room/breakfast room, the sitting room measuring 11ft 3in by 9ft 6in and with a feature brick fireplace with living flame gas

fire, while the breakfast room is 9ft 1in by 6ft 5in with French doors to the rear garden.

The refitted kitchen, 13ft 5in by 8ft 10in, has a range of units with black granite work tops, stainless steel one and a half bowl sink with mixer tap, integrated induction electric hob, stainless steel cooker hood, integrated double oven, fridge, freezer, microwave and dishwasher.

On the first floor are three bedrooms, study and a refitted bathroom with classic white suite of panelled bath with shower and screen, wash basin with vanity unit and WC.

Parking

Outside the house is set back behind a full width block paved driveway providing off road parking for several vehicles, with gated side access to a small store - originally part of the garage which has been sectioned off to create a laundry room with plumbing for automatic washing machine.

The rear garden has a full width paved patio area, shaped level lawns and raised patio area with potting shed and timber shed.

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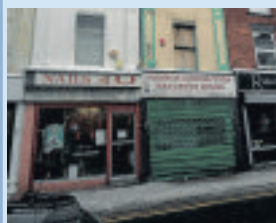
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2 43 HARGREAVES STREET, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV1 2TB	Freehold Residential Investment.....£42,000 - £47,000	31 87 HIGH STREET, BROCKMOR, BRISTLEY HILL, WEST MIDLANDS DV5 3UB	Freehold Vacant Commercial.....£77,000 - £80,000
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4 42 CLOPTON ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, B33 0RD	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£74,000 - £79,000	33 30 HIGH STREET, OAKHANGER, WALSALL, WS8 7EA	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£70,000 - £75,000
5 27 THOMPSON ROAD, OLDURY WEST MIDLANDS B68 8QE	Freehold Commercial Investment.....£30,000 - £36,000	34 LAND AT PORTWAY HILL, TWIDALE, OLDURY (A21 B69 1PD) - REF 7465	Freehold Freehold Land.....£2,400 - £2,800
6 56 HIGH STREET, BROWNHILLS, WALSALL, WS8 6EL	Freehold Commercial Investment.....£30,000 - £36,000	35 GARDEN VAND, THE SCHOOL DRIVE, DUDLEY WEST MIDLANDS DY2 9EH	Freehold Land with Potential.....£70,000 - £77,000
7 FLAT 5, 31 OXFORD ROAD, MOSSLEY, BIRMINGHAM, B13 9EH	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£66,000 - £72,000	36 JAL INDUSTRIAL SERVICES LTD, CANALSIDE CLOSE, GOSCOTE, WALSALL, WS3 1HZ	Freehold Commercial Investment £150,000 - £170,000
8 24 COPPICE CROFT, BIRMINGHAM, B33 0PT	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£46,000 - £52,000	37 RETAIL INVESTMENT PREMISES 71 HERITAGE STREET, COVENTRY, CV1 1LB	Leasehold Commercial Investment.....£330,000 - PLUS VAT
9 24 HADLOW CROFT, BIRMINGHAM, B33 0PT	Freehold Residential Investment.....£72,000 - £77,000	38 41 THE PURPLE APT, 219 LADWOOD WOLVERHAMPTON, BIRMINGHAM, B16 8EQ	Leasehold Vacant Residential.....£120,000 - £125,000
10 217 - 218 WOLVERHAMPTON STREET, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY1 1EF	Freehold Commercial Investment £120,000 - £126,000	39 4 BRITVILLE AVENUE, GREEN LANE, HANSDWORTH, BIRMINGHAM, B21 0DU	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£54,000 - £58,000
11 1 COLLEGE DRIVE, HAMSTEAD ROAD, HANSDWORTH, BIRMINGHAM, B20 2OT	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£96,000 - £106,000	40 218 CLEVELAND TOWER, HOLLOWAY HEAD, BIRMINGHAM, B1 1UF	Leasehold Residential Investment.....£56,000 - £62,000
12 130A, B, C LUDFORD STREET, WALSALL, WS1 1SY	Freehold Vacant Commercial.....£150,000 - £165,000	41 FLAT 1-4, 1431-1433 BRISTOL ROAD SOUTH, NORTHFIELD, BIRMINGHAM, B31 2SU	Leasehold Residential Investment.....£265,000 - £285,000
13 15 BRIDGE STREET SOUTH, SMETHWICK, WEST MIDLANDS B66 3OR	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£40,000 - £46,000	42 LAND AND BUILDINGS ON THE WEST SIDE OF WATERLOO STREET, DUDLEY DY1	Freehold Freehold Land.....£20,000 - £25,000
14 27 BRADFORD STREET, WALSALL, WS1 1PN	Freehold Vacant Commercial.....£230,000 - £245,000	43 LAND TO THE SOUTH OF BURY HILL PARK - REF SL-M NORTH 2AE, DUDLEY DY1	Freehold Freehold Land.....£2,500 - £3,000
15 FORMER WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, BETWEEN 159 AND 173 HEATH END ROAD CV10 7JB	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£30,000 - £36,000	44 20 CHERRY TREE WALK, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE DY13 0UT	Freehold Residential Investment.....£105,000 - £115,000
16 14 - 16 STONEY LANE, WADLEY, BIRMINGHAM, B25 8YP	Freehold Commercial Investment.....£200,000 - PLUS	45 376 PENN ROAD WOLVERHAMPTON WV4 4DB	Freehold Vacant Commercial.....£185,000 - £215,000
17 41 ST MARKS CRESENT, LADWOOD, BIRMINGHAM, B11 2PY	Freehold Residential Investment.....£90,000 - PLUS	46 118 BLUESLEY ROAD, WIDLEY, BIRMINGHAM, B25 9RS	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£90,000 - £97,000
18 26 MALHOUSE LANE, GREAT BARR, BIRMINGHAM, B42 2JX	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£190,000 - £210,000	47 31 ELDER LANE, GIFFORD, COVATLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE LE67 8ND	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£115,000 - £122,000
19 20 GOLDTHORN HILL, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV2 3HU	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£135,000 - £145,000	48 400A BEARWOOD ROAD, SMETHWICK, WEST MIDLANDS B66 4EX	Leasehold Vacant Residential.....£30,000 - £37,000
20 137 DUDLEY ROAD WEST, TWIDALE, OLDURY, WEST MIDLANDS B69 2HU	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£90,000 - £95,000	49 38 HARGREAVES ROAD, ERINGTON, BIRMINGHAM, B24 8LE	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£65,000 - £69,000
21 365 CITY ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, B17 8LD	Freehold Residential Investment.....£162,000 - £172,000	50 50 ROTTEN PARK ROAD, EGGASTON, BIRMINGHAM, B16 6GB	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£210,000 - £230,000
22 81 WATLING STREET, GRENDA, ABERSTON, WARRICKSHIRE CV9 2HN	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£170,000 - £185,000	51 42 BLOWICK ROAD SOUTH, WILKIN, WEST MIDLANDS WV13 1AZ	Freehold Vacant Commercial.....£70,000 - £80,000
23 27 TANKERSON ROAD, BARTLEY GREEN, BIRMINGHAM, B32 3HF	Freehold Residential Investment.....£47,000 - £53,000	52 146 & 146A WELLINGTON ROAD, BLISTON, WEST MIDLANDS WV14 6AZ	Freehold Residential Investment.....£139,000 - £149,000
24 72 CHURCH HILL ROAD, HANSDWORTH, BIRMINGHAM, B20 3PB	Freehold Development Land.....£75,000 - £95,000	53 FORMER JOB CENTRE, 70 - 71 PINFOLD STREET, WALSALL WS10 8TB	Freehold Residential Investment.....£50,000 - £60,000 + VAT
25 LAND 021 ALLRODGE ROAD, GREAT BARR, BIRMINGHAM, B44 8NY	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£215,000 - £235,000	54 45 & 47 BUTTON ROAD, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS DY2 0ST	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£70,000 - £77,000
26 20 SEARSDIFF ROAD, HANSDWORTH, BIRMINGHAM, B20 3TE	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£65,000 - £69,000		
27 7 FALCON VIEW, HUDSONS DRIVE, COTTLEDGE, BIRMINGHAM, B30 3BE	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£56,000 - £60,000		
28 48 FORDHOUSE ROAD WOLVERHAMPTON WV10 9EE	Freehold Vacant Residential.....£145,000 - £152,000		
29 39 ENDWOOD COURT ROAD, HANSDWORTH WOOD, BIRMINGHAM, B20 2XK			

For a **FREE** copy of the Catalogue Please Call: **0121 247 2233**

Cottons,
The Property Specialists
Est 1924



LAND AND BUILDINGS ON THE WEST SIDE OF
WATERLOO STREET, DUDLEY



217-218 WOLVERHAMPTON STREET,
DUDLEY



20 GOLDTHORN HILL,
WOLVERHAMPTON



45-47 BUXTON ROAD,
DUDLEY



48 FORDHOUSE ROAD,
WOLVERHAMPTON



376 PENN ROAD,
WOLVERHAMPTON



146 & 146A WELLINGTON ROAD,
BLISTON



GARAGE YARD, THE SCHOOL DRIVE,
DUDLEY



43 HARGREAVES STREET,
WOLVERHAMPTON

Sedgley

SKITTS

ESTATE AGENTS

01902 686868**sedgley@skitts.net****TIPTON ROAD
WOODSETTON**

OPEN VIEWING - SATURDAY 16th MARCH 10:00pm till 4:00pm
.. NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY ..

- Extremely well presented mid-terraced • Three bedrooms • Two receptions
- PARKING to the rear • Spacious dining kitchen • Laundrette with WC off
- Useful basement • Modern bathroom • SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME

Reduced to £130,000**THE ALLEY
LOWER GORNAL**

- A delightful detached cottage • Refurbished to a good standard
- FANTASTIC POSITION • VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- Two bedrooms • Living room with 'Cast Iron' fuel burner
- Fitted kitchen • Downstairs Cloaks • Ample off road parking

£229,950**LONGFELLOW ROAD
THE STRAITS**

- Spacious detached dormer bungalow • Four bedrooms
- Lounge plus dining area • Kitchen with conservatory off
- Shower room • Off road parking plus garage • Central heating
- Double glazing • Popular location • NO UPWARD CHAIN

£189,950**FREE MARKET APPRAISALS - Call us now on 01902 686868****BARNESMEADOW PLACE
COSELEY**

- An impressive detached residence • Spacious family home
- Four bedrooms • Two reception rooms • Stylish kitchen plus laundrette
- Two bathrooms • Central heating and double glazing • Cul-de-sac position
- Garage • INTERIOR VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

£219,950**QUEENS ROAD
SEDGLEY**

- Semi-detached family home • Three bedrooms
- Lounge with bay window • Dining room • Kitchen
- Spacious bathroom • Central heating and double glazing
- Popular location • NO UPWARD CHAIN

£145,000**ZOAR STREET
LOWER GORNAL**

- A well presented mid-terraced home • Fantastic accommodation
- Three double bedrooms • Two reception rooms • Dining kitchen
- Spacious bathroom • Downstairs cloak • Central heating and double glazing
- Potential garage space (S.I.P.P) • Spacious family home

£139,950**VALLEY ROAD
UPPER GORNAL**

- Semi-detached home • Three bedrooms • Lounge
- Dining kitchen • Downstairs cloak • Central heating
- Double glazing • Off road parking • Popular location

£104,950**DOVEDALE ROAD
ETTINGSHALL PARK**

- Well presented detached • Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms • Fitted kitchen with access to garage
- Central heating, double glazing • PARKING TO THE REAR
- Garage • Extremely popular location

£159,950**FARRINGTON ROAD
ETTINGSHALL PARK**

- Detached family home • Spacious accommodation
- Three double bedrooms • 25th Living room • Central heating
- Double glazing • Popular location • NO UPWARD CHAIN

Offers Around £175,000**BRICK KILN LANE
GORNAL WOOD**

- Detached family residence in popular location
- Three double bedrooms
- Spacious dining kitchen
- Useful downstairs WC off spacious entrance hall
- Modern shower room

£249,940**ROWENA GARDENS
NORTHWAY, SEDGLEY**

- An impressive detached home • Three bedrooms
- L' shaped living room • Dining room, dining kitchen
- Stylish bathroom • Private rear garden, garage
- Quiet position in cul-de-sac • NO UPWARD CHAIN

£249,950**BOSWORTH CLOSE
WOODSETTON**

- Detached residence • Extremely well presented
- FOUR Bedrooms • 21ft Living room • Ground floor cloak
- Central heating • Double glazing • Garage • Off road parking
- Popular location

£225,000**LONGFELLOW ROAD
STRAITS, DUDLEY**

- Detached bungalow • Refurbished throughout
- Two bedrooms • Off road parking & garage
- Central heating • Double glazing
- Popular location • MUST BE VIEWED!

Reduced to £189,950**FARRINGTON ROAD
ETTINGSHALL PARK**

- Three bedroom semi-detached • Two reception rooms
- Kitchen with WC off • Integral garage • Central heating
- Double glazing • Good size rear garden • Popular location
- No upward chain

Reduced to £143,500**HIMLEY AVENUE
DUDLEY**

- Semi-detached family home • Three bedrooms
- Lounge, dining room, study • Kitchen plus utility
- Off road parking • Central heating • Double glazing
- A well presented home • VIEWING RECOMMENDED

Offers Around £149,950**TURNERS HILL ROAD
LOWER GORNAL**

- Spacious semi-detached home • Three bedrooms
- 21ft Living room • Dining kitchen • Heating and double glazing
- Useful work shop with WC • Off road parking

Reduced to £112,000**VALLEY ROAD
UPPER GORNAL**

- Extended semi-detached • Spacious family home
- Three double bedrooms • Lounge plus dining room
- Dining kitchen • Spacious bathroom • Ample off road parking
- Central heating • Double glazing • MUST BE VIEWED

Reduced to £111,950**CROSS LANE
SEDGLEY**

- Corner position • Semi-detached family home
- Three bedrooms • Lounge diner • Central heating
- Double glazing • Off road parking • Spacious accommodation

£114,950**LAUREL ROAD
DUDLEY**

- Spacious semi-detached • Three bedrooms • Lounge plus dining area
- Double glazed conservatory • Downstairs WC
- Central heating, double glazing • Rear garden
- Off road parking • Ideal first time buy

£106,500**SWAN STREET
BRIERLEY HILL**

- Refurbished semi-detached • Three bedrooms
- Lounge, kitchen, utility • Down stairs WC
- Central heating, double glazing • Investment opportunity

£95,500**DONNINGTON COURT**

- Spacious ground floor apartment
- Well presented home, 20ft Living room
- Central heating, double glazing • Ideal first time buy

£89,950**FLAMBOROUGH WAY**

- Four bedroom detached
- Lounge plus dining area
- Extended stylish kitchen

£215,000**ETTINGSHALL PARK FARM LANE**

- Link-detached family home
- Three/Four bedrooms
- Lounge, dining room

Offers Over £149,950**THE RIDGEWAY**

- Spacious end-terraced
- Well presented home, 20ft Living room
- Two reception rooms

£115,000**FLAMBOROUGH WAY**

- Detached family home
- Four bedrooms
- Lounge and dining room

Reduced to £182,500**IVYHOUSE LANE**

- Spacious semi-detached home • Two bedrooms
- Two reception rooms • Conservatory
- Kitchen plus laundrette • Stylish bathroom • Central heat

£119,950**BEACONSFIELD AVENUE**

- Well maintained bungalow • Surprisingly spacious
- Two bedrooms • Lounge plus 2 sun rooms • Fitted kitchen
- Luxury shower room • Central heating • Double glazing

£119,950**BRIDGEWATER DRIVE**

- Well presented detached home • Three bedrooms
- Lounge plus conservatory • Dining kitchen • Stylish bath-room

£155,000**GEORGE STREET**

- Spacious semi-detached
- Two bedrooms
- Lounge plus conservatory

£95,000

Your Move Matters....
We charge only for
success !!!

Branches also at:

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K.Stuart Swash

PROPERTY AUCTION 26th MARCH 2013



159 PARKFIELD ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON
Corner Shop/Commercial Premises + rooms to rear
Two Bed Living Accommodation, Two Garages, enclosed and gated yard
GF EPC: E FF EPC: F

VIEWING: 15th & 16th MARCH @ 11.00 am
Guide: £78,000/£83,000



23 SHERBORNE ROAD, BUSHBURY, WOLVERHAMPTON
Neatly presented, majority uPVC, Gas CH, Two Reception, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Attractive Garden. EPC: D

VIEWING 15th & 16th MARCH @ 11.30 am
Guide: £73,000/£78,000



92 HAWKSFORD CRESCENT, BUSHBURY, WOLVERHAMPTON
Generous corner plot, Lounge, large Dining Kitchen Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, CH, Gardens, off-road parking EPC: C
VIEWING: 15th & 16th MARCH @ 10.45 am
Guide: £53,000/£58,000



54 BLAKELEY AVENUE, CLAREGATE
At head of cul-de-sac with lovely garden
Three Bed Semi, large Bathroom, Two Reception, Kitchen
Gas CH, extensive Garage. EPC: D

VIEWING: 15th & 16th MARCH @ 12.00 noon
Guide: £98,000/£103,000



56 PARK ROAD WEST, WOLVERHAMPTON
With outlook to West Park, a spacious Semi for modernisation. Three Reception, Three Bedrooms, Garage, Gardens. EPC: F

VIEWING 15th & 16th MARCH @ 1.15 pm
Guide: £130,000/£140,000



25 THREE TUNS LANE, OXLEY, WOLVERHAMPTON
Well located Semi with newly installed CH, majority uPVC Lounge, Dining Kitchen, WC, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Off road parking, Gardens. EPC: D

VIEWING 15th & 16th MARCH @ 12.15 pm
Guide: £63,000/£68,000



24 WHITE OAKS DRIVE, BISHOPS WOOD
Lovely Village location - Modern Two Bed, Two Bath House, Two Reception, Kitchen, Double Garage, Drive and Rear Garden, EPC: F

VIEWING: 15th & 16th MARCH @ 1.00 pm
Guide: £130,000/£140,000



9 KENT STREET, WALSALL
Spacious Mid Terraced for modernisation
Two Reception, Kitchen, Bathroom, Three Bedrooms, Garden. EPC: E
VIEWING 15th & 16th MARCH @ 9.45 am
Guide: £52,000/£57,000



110 MILTON ROAD, FALLINGS PARK, WOLVERHAMPTON
Ready to modernise, Two Receptions, Kitchen, Shower facility.
Two Bedrooms, Rear Yard, WC. EPC: E
VIEWING 15th & 16th MARCH @ 10.00 am
Guide: £44,000/£49,000

FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION

(Subject to Conditions and prior sale)
On TUESDAY 26th MARCH 2013 @ 6.30 pm

**At the Ramada Park Hall Hotel
Park Drive, Goldthorn Park,
Wolverhampton WV4 5AJ**

VIEWING OF ALL LOTS AT OWN RISK
Please Note: Viewings are at times specified so, should you arrive late, you may find your viewing time is limited or that we have moved on in order to maintain the viewing schedule

Please Register for Catalogue

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Wakeman

team
teamprop.co.uk



276 NORTHWAY £254,950
SEDGLEY
● Split level detached house with four bedrooms
● Exceptionally well presented & considerably improved
● Spacious, flexible living accommodation, impressive living room
● Private rear garden with views at front to the distant Shropshire Hills
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING E



196 TURLS HILL ROAD £249,950
COELEY
● Attractive detached cottage with four bedrooms
● Deceptively spacious and improved accommodation
● Ensuite shower room off bedroom two
● Open views to the front over conservation area
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



ADJOINING 3 THE STRAITS £219,950
LOWER GORNAL
● Spacious newly built 3 bedroom bungalow
● Large well fitted bathroom & ensuite
● Well fitted kitchen
● Ample parking & garage space
● SEDGLEY OFFICE



44 QUEENS ROAD O/A £199,950
SEDGLEY
● Extended traditional detached house
● Well proportioned three bedroom accommodation
● Generously sized living rooms and kitchen
● Backing onto greenbelt land
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



55 CHARLECOTE DRIVE
DUDLEY
We are acting in the sale of the above property and have received an offer of £205,000.
Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.



81 BILSTON STREET £190,000
SEDGLEY
● Detached double fronted residence
● Spacious four bedroom accommodation
● Useful dry cellar/workshop
● Predominantly double glazed
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING F



72 LONGMEADOW DRIVE £187,000
SEDGLEY
● Detached house
● Three bedrooms
● Through lounge & dining area
● Attractively presented
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



29 CEDARWOOD ROAD £179,950
LOWER GORNAL
● Link detached bungalow
● Two bedrooms, shower room
● Well maintained & improved
● L shaped lounge & dining room
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



22 TURLS HILL ROAD O/A £179,950
SEDGLEY
● Traditional semi detached house with three bedrooms
● Extended breakfast kitchen & extended rear living room
● Gas centrally heated & majority double glazed accommodation
● Cookroom/utility, large and extensive rear garden
● SEDGLEY OFFICE



5 BROWNSWALL ROAD £174,950
SEDGLEY
● Semi detached house
● Three bedrooms, conservatory
● Good sized accommodation
● Two reception rooms
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



6 HOLLOWAY STREET £162,500
UPPER GORNAL
● Three bedroom detached house
● Individually designed
● Well proportioned accommodation
● Private rear garden
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



3 OAKHAM AVENUE OIRO £162,950
DUDLEY
● Traditional semi detached house
● Four bedrooms
● Extended kitchen & bathroom
● In need of certain cosmetic works
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING F



9 DALWOOD CLOSE O/A £139,950
COELEY
● Semi detached house
● Three bedrooms
● Extended rear lounge & kitchen
● Majority gas central heating
● SEDGLEY OFFICE



281 WRENS NEST ROAD £134,950
WOODSETTON
● Spacious modern three storey house
● Three bedrooms
● Well presented throughout
● Two car parking spaces at rear
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING C



102 EARL STREET £124,950
COELEY
● Semi detached house
● Three bedrooms
● Well maintained & improved
● Conservatory
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING C



8 WHITESMITHS CLOSE £119,950
SEDGLEY
● Well presented first floor apartment
● Two bedrooms
● Stairlift leading to first floor
● Over 55's small development
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



130 MOUNT ROAD £115,000
LANESFIELD
● Traditional semi detached house
● Three bedrooms
● Larger than average plot
● Large private rear garden
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



33 KINGS ROAD £118,950
SEDGLEY
● Considerably improved mid terraced house
● Two bedrooms
● Well presented accommodation
● Gas centrally heated & double glazed
● SEDGLEY OFFICE



8 UXBRIDGE CLOSE £114,950
LOWER GORNAL
● Modern townhouse
● Three bedrooms
● Well maintained & improved
● Parking to front & rear
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING C



27 BOUNDARY HILL £103,950
LOWER GORNAL
● Extended semi detached house
● Three bedrooms
● Breakfast kitchen
● Gas central heating
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING D



113 VIEWFIELD CRES £74,950
SEDGLEY
● First floor flat
● One bedroom
● Own entrance hall
● Communal gardens
● SEDGLEY OFFICE - EPC RATING C

Sedgley Office
01902 885894

Dudley Office
01384 459999

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WALL HEATH



DAWLEY ROAD

•EPC D Rating•An Improved Bay Fronted Semi Detached•Three Bedrooms•Refitted Kitchen Diner Having Integrated Appliances•Lounge Having Feature Fireplace•Refitted Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Driveway Sought After Location•Corner Plot

£190,000

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

ROWLEY REGIS



BLACKBERRY LANE

•EPC RATING E•An Improved End Terraced Residence•Three Bedrooms•Lounge•Kitchen Diner•White Bathroom Suite•Gas Central Heating System•Double Glazing Where Stated•Garage•Drive•No Chain

£110,000

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

UPPER GORNAL



HOMESTEAD CLOSE

•EPC RATINGS AWAITED•An Improved Semi Detached Property•Two Bedrooms•Lounge•Dining Kitchen•Refitted Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Enclosed Porch•Driveway Parking•Enclosed Rear Garden

£124,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

DUDLEY



MEADOW ROAD

EPC Rating D•Semi Detached Property•Two Bedrooms•Lounge•Fitted Dining Kitchen•Gas Central Heating System•Rear Garden

£70,000

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

PUBLIC NOTICE



EVE LANE

Your Move are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £85,000 for 102 Eve Lane, Dudley, DY1 3TU. Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Your Move, 215 High St, Dudley, DY1 1PB, 01384 455000.

£89,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

DUDLEY



PENSNETT ROAD

•EPC RATINGS AWAITED•An Improved & Extended Bay Fronted Semi Detached•Three Bedrooms•Dining Room•Extended Galley Kitchen & Lounge•Detached Double Garage To Rear•Fitted Wardrobes To Bedrooms One & Two•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Open Views To Rear•Viewing Recommended

£134,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

UPPER GORNAL



EVE LANE

•An Extended Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Front & Extended Rear Lounge•Extended Kitchen•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Entrance Porch•Rear Garden•No Upward Chain

£90,000

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

ROWLEY REGIS



WOOLPACK CLOSE

•EPC GRADING C•Two Bedroom Mid Townhouse•Vestibule•Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Bathroom Upstairs•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Drive•No Chain

£84,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

DUDLEY



BREITELL STREET

•EPC RATING E•NO UPWARD CHAIN TWO BEDROOM PROPERTY!!!!!!•Two Bedroom Mid Terrace•Two Reception Rooms•First Floor Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Kitchen In Need Of Updating•No Chain

£59,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

PUBLIC NOTICE



PARKGATE MEWS, TIPTON, DY4 9HD

We act on behalf of the mortgagees in possession and they are in receipt of an offer of £40,000 subject to contract for the above property. Anyone wishing to place a higher offer must do so before legal exchange of contracts.

£45,000

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

DUDLEY



QUEENS CROSS

•EPC RATINGS AWAITED•An Improved Mid Townhouse•Two Double Bedrooms•Lounge•Refitted Bathroom•Dining Kitchen•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Parking To The Rear

£84,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

OAKHAM



OAKHAM CRESCENT

•EPC RATING G•Bay Fronted Detached•Three Bedrooms•Two Reception Rooms•In Need Of Modernizing•Detached Garage To Rear•No Upward Chain

£105,000

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

WANTED

2 BED MODERN PROPERTIES NEEDED IN DY1 OR DY3, BUYERS WAITING UPTO £125,000

DUDLEY



WRENS NEST ROAD

•CORNER PLOT & DRIVEWAY•EPC C•Two Bedrooms•Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Bathroom Upstairs•Driveway

£73,000

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

NETHERTON



FIELD MEWS

•EPC RATING D•MODERN TWO BEDROOM PROPERTY!!!!!!IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY!!!!!!•Modern Two Bedroom End Townhouse•Fitted Kitchen•Rear Lounge•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Drive•Enclosed Garden

£109,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

DUDLEY



HEATH GREEN

•EPC RATINGS AWAITED•An Improved Semi Detached•Three Bedrooms•Lounge•Kitchen Diner•Bathroom•Double Glazing Where Stated•Gas Central Heating System•Rear Garden Having Lawn & Decking•No Chain

£109,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

DUDLEY



ABBOTSFORD DRIVE

•REDUCED!!!!!!•Much Improved Detached Bungalow•Two Bedrooms•Open Plan Lounge•Dining Room•Conservatory•Refitted Kitchen•Garage•Gas Central Heating System•Double Glazing Where Stated•Block Paved Driveway•Extensive Rear Gardens

£199,950

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

WANTED

WE URGENTLY REQUIRE A 3 BEDROOM BAY FRONTED SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY ON OR AROUND PINE RD, TIVIDALE UPTO £135,000, BUYER WAITING

WEST BROMWICH



BEACON VIEW ROAD

•Two Double Bedrooms•Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Balcony•Lift Access•CCTV

450pcm

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

Oldbury



Brade Road

•Traditional Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Two Large Reception Rooms•Fitted Kitchen•Two Double Bedrooms and One Large Single•Shower Room•Drive Way•Family Garden•Available Now•EPC Rating D

575pcm

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

DUDLEY



GLEN ROAD

EPC Grading D•Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Lounge•Fitted Kitchen•Close To Amenities•Close to Schools and Parks•Drive

£550 PM

DUDLEY ☎ 01384 455000

TIVIDALE



WAKEMAN DRIVE

EPC C•Three Bedroom Detached•Lounge•Dining Room•Fitted Kitchen•Ground Floor Cloakroom•Garage•En Suite To Bedroom One

£695 PCM

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DUDLEY
SEDGLEY
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Cradley Heath



Codsall Road

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550pcm

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•Three Bedroom Semi Detached•Lounge •Fitted Kitchen •Family Bathroom •Drive •Close to Local Amenities•Recently Refurbished•Cul-de-sac Location•EPC Rating

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KINGSWINFORD**BRIERLEY HILL****STOURBRIDGE****818 High Street****01384 401777****84-86 High Street****01384 265265****85 High Street****01384 395555**
6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS
KINGSWINFORD**Melbourne Close**

Enjoying perhaps one of the best positions within this sought after cul-de-sac, this DELIGHTFUL MODERN DETACHED FAMILY HOME enjoys very pleasant views and offers a WELL PROPORTIONED, ATTRACTIVELY PRESENTED and WELL APPOINTED layout of accommodation which includes GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and comprises: Reception Hall, ground floor Guests Cloak/WC, large Lounge with bay, full width refitted Kitchen with appliances and dining area off, CONSERVATORY, THREE BEDROOMS and refitted Bathroom. BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY, DETACHED GARAGE and a very pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£199,950**RUSSELLS HALL****Quentin Drive**

This most impressive, double glazed, gas centrally heated, three bedroomed detached family home has been conscientiously maintained by the present owners, and simply MUST BE VIEWED to fully appreciate the standard of accommodation provided. Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac, the property briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, through Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Guest WC, Landing with Balcony, three good Bedrooms, Bathroom with separate Shower, Cubicle, Garage, Driveway and Rear Garden of good size. EPC rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£189,950**KINGSWINFORD****Park Street**

A SUBSTANTIAL DOUBLE FRONTED 'PERIOD' FAMILY HOME which is superbly placed within walking distance from the heart of Kingswinford, offering EXTREMELY SPACIOUS and BEAUTIFULLY REAPPOINTED accommodation, including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, comprising: Hall, Fantastic Large Lounge with walk in bay, Spacious separate dining room, Cellar, Luxury re fitted breakfast kitchen with built in appliances, rear hall, guest cloak room/WC, THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS and re fitted bathroom. This impressive property is set back beyond a small 'valley' frontage, is further enhanced by DRIVE PARKING, and an attractively landscaped rear garden. EPC Rating E. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£182,500**HOLLY HALL**

A SUBSTANTIAL TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED FAMILY HOME set within a convenient and popular position, BACKING ONTO FIELDS, offering EXTENDED and MOST ATTRACTIVELY PRESENTED accommodation, all VERY SPACIOUS, comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge with bay, Extended Dining Room with sitting area, Extended Breakfast Kitchen, Side Hall with WC and Useful Store off, FOUR GOOD BEDROOMS, attractive bathroom, separate WC, GAS CENTRAL HEATING and DOUBLE GLAZING. Gently elevated beyond the attractively landscaped front garden with DRIVEWAY, GARAGE, plus a LARGE and SUNNY REAR GARDEN, REAR DOUBLE GARAGE and ADDITIONAL DOUBLE PARKING SPACE accessed via private driveway. EPC Rating E. KINSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£146,950 - No Stamp Duty**PENSNETT ROAD****WOODSETTON****Parkes Hall Road**

An absolutely outstanding, exceptionally stylish, Freehold, gas centrally heated (combi boiler), and uPVC double glazed semi detached that has been tremendously enhanced to a superb specification in recent years. The superb accommodation comprises: entrance porch, reception hall, living room with bay, transverse refitted dining kitchen with a fine range of 'Shaker - cream' styled units. Three bedrooms, reappointed bathroom with a white contemporary look suite with chrome accessories/shower. Off road parking to front. PROFESSIONALLY LANDSCAPED garden, and GARAGE to rear. EPC Rating TBA SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in excess of £135,000**COSELEY****Hockley Road, Bramford Estate**

NO UPWARD CHAIN. This traditional, EXTENDED, uPVC double glazed (vast majority of units), gas centrally heated semi detached home is situated in an established residential location. Accommodation briefly comprises entrance hall, lounge, dining room, extended kitchen, rear lobby/utility, three bedrooms, shower room, garage, driveway, gardens to front & rear. EPC Rating: TBA. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £129,950**WORDSLEY****Dewberry Road**

A LARGE TRADITIONAL SEMI-DETACHED FAMILY HOME, gently elevated beyond a LONG FRONTISIDE DRIVEWAY, being well placed within a popular location, providing VERY SPACIOUS and ATTRACTIVELY MAINTAINED accommodation which includes GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and comprises: Reception Hall, large Lounge with bay, separate Dining Room/Second Sitting Room, refitted kitchen with appliances, THREE LARGE BEDROOMS and Bathroom. The property is further enhanced by the LARGE and SUNNY REAR GARDEN. EPC Rating C. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£129,500**BRIERLEY HILL****Perrott Gardens**

Enjoying an excellent and position, this BEAUTIFULLY PRESENTED AND THOUGHTFULLY IMPROVED, TWO BEDROOM, MEWS STYLED HOME presents a layout with both GAS CENTRAL HEATING and UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, to briefly comprise: hall, attractive sitting room, splendid refitted kitchen, two good first floor bedrooms and delightful reappointed bathroom with white suite. Easily maintained rear garden incorporating double width drive, lovely landscaped rear garden and GARAGE. EPC Rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£124,950**KINGSWINFORD****Southern Close**

Gently elevated to the fore and enjoying FANTASTIC DISTANT VIEWS within this popular cul-de-sac address just off Auckland Road, this BEAUTIFULLY IMPROVED MODERN MEWS HOUSE offers ATTRACTIVELY APPOINTED and VERY WELL PRESENTED accommodation including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and comprising: Entrance Hall, attractive well proportioned Lounge, refitted Dining Kitchen with built in appliances, TWO BEDROOMS and beautifully re-appointed Shower Room. Enjoying ALLOCATED OFF-ROAD PARKING, small low-maintenance frontage, together with a TIERED LOW MAINTENANCE REAR GARDEN which enjoys an OPEN REAR ASPECT. EPC Rating C. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£119,950**DUDLEY****Oak Green, Old Park Farm estate**

An absolutely outstanding, comprehensive modernised & refurbished, gas centrally heated (combi boiler) & uPVC double glazed semi detached in established/convenient district. "Transformed" by present vendors in recent months, the superb accommodation includes reception hall, magnificent lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen with a fine range of units & various integrated appliances, three generous bedrooms (two with wardrobes), reappointed bathroom with white contemporary style suite, sophisticated alarm system, potential off road parking, ample secluded turfied rear garden. EPC Rating TBA SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £119,950**NETHERTON****Bobbington Way**

This neatly presented, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated, three bedroom terraced property has been conscientiously maintained by the current owners, and is well worthy of internal inspection. Accommodation briefly comprises: re-fitted Kitchen with a fine range of units, L shaped - extended Lounge / Dining Room, three good Bedrooms (master with fitted wardrobes), Bathroom with separate WC, Garage, Driveway and a low maintenance rear Garden. EPC Rating E. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£114,950**DUDLEY****The Broadway**

TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL! A traditional, freehold, part uPVC double glazed inter-war semi detached requiring comprehensive modernisation set in popular/convenient district. Accommodation includes entrance porch, traditional reception hall, walk-in store, lounge with bay, dining room (with uPVC double glazed french doors out to garden), former kitchen, pantry, half glazed verandah. Three bedrooms, bathroom, separate toilet, small garage, gardens. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £106,950**RUSSELLS HALL****Ashenhurst Road**

This part uPVC double glazed, three bedroom semi detached home would now ideally benefit from sympathetic improvement / upgrading, yet offers excellent potential. Available with NO UPWARD CHAIN, the property briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, three bedrooms, Bathroom, Driveway, Garage and lawned rear Garden. EPC Rating E. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£99,950**COSELEY****Ettingshall Road**

This traditional style, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated, three bedroom semi detached home which is "tucked away" just off Ettingshall Road, and is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Accommodation briefly comprises: entrance hall, lounge, dining kitchen. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Front & rear gardens. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £90,000**PENSNETT****Church Street**

This traditional style, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated, two bedroomed semi detached home has been considerably improved by the present owners, and may represent an ideal first time buy. The property is situated in a quiet cul de sac and briefly comprises: stylish Lounge, Dining Kitchen, two good Bedrooms, Bathroom with white suite, Driveway and rear Garden. EPC rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£89,950**KINGSWINFORD****Penzer Street**

Exceptionally well placed within this extremely sought after address and only a very short walk from local shops and amenities, this IMPRESSIVELY SPACIOUS MODERN FIRST FLOOR FLAT enjoys its own PRIVATE GROUND FLOOR ENTRANCE and, requires some updating, but provides FANTASTIC POTENTIAL to enhance the GENEROUS accommodation, comprising: Private ground floor Entrance hall, very spacious Lounge, fitted Kitchen, linen hall, Double Bedroom, classic white Bathroom, DOUBLE GLAZING and STORAGE HEATING. Set within beautifully maintained gardens/grounds including ALLOCATED OFF-ROAD CAR PARKING and BEAUTIFULLY LAID OUT COMMUNAL REAR GARDEN with USEFUL GARDEN STORE and enjoying an OPEN REAR ASPECT. EPC Rating D. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£81,500**DUDLEY****Moncrieffe Close**

This well presented, partially double glazed Third Floor Flat has been conscientiously maintained by the current owner and is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN. The stylish accommodation briefly comprises: Secure communal entrance, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Bathroom, gated parking and lawned communal grounds. EPC Rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£63,950**UPPER GORNAL****Old Quarry Drive**

An ABSOLUTELY OUTSTANDING imaginatively EXTENDED, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached uniquely situated virtually at head of cul de sac in favoured district with panoramic distant views. The particularly stylish, tastefully enhanced accommodation includes reception hall, elegant lounge with living flame gas fire & walk-in bay, extended dining/living room (with lofty ceiling heights incorporating skylight, refitted breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units & many integrated appliances, fitted cloakroom: four generous bedrooms (principal bedroom with a fine range of fitted units & reappointed shower room en suite), reappointed bathroom with contemporary style white suite, garage, block paved parking/drive, delightful secluded well stocked landscaped rear garden with many fine established shrubs & plants. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £235,000**DUDLEY****Elmstone Close (Off Richborough Drive)**

Enjoying TREMENDOUS VIEWS, an OUTSTANDING, significantly EXTENDED, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached that has been transformed by present vendors since construction in 2005 to an exemplary standard. Accommodation entrance vestibule, large well equipped hub of the house breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units & many integrated appliances, fitted cloakroom, 162" through dining room (with french doors out to garden) & a sitting room (also with french doors out to garden). Principal bedroom suite (lofty ceiling height) with doors to balcony commanding panoramic views & a dressing room (with potential), three further bedrooms (one with shower room en suite) & stylish white bathroom. DOUBLE BRICK GARAGE & additional parking, large landscaped rear garden. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £232,950**GORNAL****£15,000 REDUCTION**

A SUBSTANTIAL BRAND NEW DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE, which enjoys superb open views, appointed to a high standard throughout, with GAS CENTRAL HEATING, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, comprising: Reception Hall, cloaks/WC, very large lounge, luxury family kitchen with appliances and large dining area off, laundry, 4/5 large bedrooms, 4 en suites &amp; study/ bedroom 5. Large Driveway approach, GARAGE and a generous rear garden. EPC Rating B. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£234,950**SEDGLEY****Greenacres, Northway,**

ENVIABLY SITUATED immediately adjacent to and overlooking open fields with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS. An enlarged, conscientiously maintained, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached in favoured cul-de-sac. Accommodation includes: entrance vestibule, inner hallway, L shape through living/dining room (with patio doors), extended/upgraded breakfast kitchen with a fine range of units. Three bedrooms, re-fitted/reappointed shower room (former bathroom), Garage, store, and outside toilet. Extensive block paved parking to front & a delightful expertly tended secluded rear garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Price: £215,000**DUDLEY**

A quite exceptional, tremendously ENLARGED & EXTENDED, Edwardian semi detached of character occupying a fine corner plot with EXTENSIVE PARKING. The uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated (combi boiler) accommodation includes: reception hall, 20' sitting room with bay, separate dining room, stunning 22' breakfast kitchen with a magnificent range of units & many integrated appliances, fitted cloakroom, 31' double glazed conservatory. FOUR BEDROOMS, tiled shower room (former bathroom). Many period features. Large garage, block paved parking, delightful sheltered garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £184,950

BEARWOOD**HALESOWEN****SEDGLEY****129 Poplar Road****0121 434 4345****21 Hagley Road****0121 550 3978****2A Dudley Street****01902 880888****6 LOCAL OFFICES WORKING HARDER FOR BUYERS & SELLERS****Taylor's**

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DUDLEY**Cowley Drive, Milking Bank**

VENDORS ADVISE NO UPWARD CHAIN. This immaculately presented, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated detached family home has been significantly improved & updated by the present owners and is situated in a quiet cul de sac on the popular Milking Bank development. Internal inspection is strongly advised to fully appreciate the standard of accommodation which briefly comprises entrance porch, hall, stylish lounge, splendid refitted kitchen with a fine range of units & integrated appliances, dining room, four good bedrooms, reapportioned bathroom with white suite, driveway, garage & lawned gardens. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £181,500**DUDLEY****Austin Close, Milking Bank**

A significantly EXTENDED & conscientiously maintained, gas centrally heated detached family home with secluded rear garden & good distant views from the front. Set upon well regarded development, the carefully planned accommodation includes entrance hallway, lounge with bay & living flame feature gas fire, dining room, upgraded kitchen, pantry, laundry room, fitted cupboard. Four generous bedrooms (principal bedroom with shower room en suite & two with built-in wardrobes), bathroom, walk-in store (two lifts), 17'6" garage, gardens. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £179,995**GORNAL WOOD****Woodland Grove**

Enviably situated in short cul-de-sac just off Brick Kiln Lane where houses are only rarely available for sale, a conscientiously maintained, gas centrally heated, part uPVC double glazed EXTENDED detached. The accommodation provides: reception hall, lounge, transverse "hub of the house" breakfast kitchen, and a dining room beyond, together with a "garden room". Three bedrooms, bathroom, Lengthy block paved driveway, brick garage, sheltered/secluded rear garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £179,950**DUDLEY****Elmstone Close**

Enviably situated just off Richborough Drive with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS, this most attractive, stylish, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated detached family home occupies a corner plot & is in exemplary order throughout. Accommodation comprises entrance hall, guest w.c., kitchen with a fine range of units, transverse lounge/dining room, three good bedrooms (principal bedroom with en suite), shower room, burglar alarm, garage, block paved driveway & a landscaped rear garden. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £176,950**LOWER GORNAL****Keats Close, Straits**

An EXTENDED, tremendously enhanced, stylish, Freehold, gas centrally heated (combi boiler), and uPVC double glazed semi detached enviably situated with wide frontage overlooking adopted open space. Flexible accommodation includes: reception hall, 22'6" through lounge/dining room (formerly separate rooms) with double opening French doors, recently refitted kitchen with a fine range of units & various integrated appliances, store, rear lobby with further store, and fourth double bedroom (alternative use as a study/play room/reception room etc.). Three bedrooms (one with fitted wardrobes), bathroom with a white suite. Garage, extensive parking, secluded rear garden. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £175,000**KINGSWINFORD****Grantley Crescent**

Exceptionally well placed upon prestigious Valley Fields, this DISTINCTIVE, MODERN, DETACHED HOUSE offers SPACIOUS, WELL PRESENTED and VERSATILE accommodation, including GAS CENTRAL HEATING, uPVC DOUBLE GLAZING and comprising: reception hall, spacious lounge, fitted kitchen, bedroom 3 / separate dining room, classic white bathroom, TWO / THREE BEDROOMS (3 including ground floor bedroom), Front garden, TARMAC DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and very pleasant & attractively laid out rear garden. EPC Rating E. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

£174,950**QUARRY BANK****Nottingham Way**

Occupying a corner plot, this immaculately presented, surprisingly spacious, uPVC double glazed, gas centrally heated, three bedroomed detached family home has been conscientiously maintained by the current owners, and simply must be viewed to fully appreciate the standard of accommodation provided. The property briefly comprises: entrance porch, hall, living room, dining room, kitchen with a fine range of units/integrated appliances, conservatory, utility, guest w.c., three good bedrooms (master with fitted wardrobes), re-fitted bathroom with white suite, garage, driveway, and a low maintenance rear garden. EPC Rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£172,950**SEDGLEY****Dormston Drive**

NO UPWARD CHAIN. Within walking distance of Sedgley's Bull Ring in quiet cul de sac, an outstanding, exceptionally stylish & well appointed, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed detached that has been 'transformed' by present vendors over the years. Accommodation provides entrance hallway, cupboard, superb lounge with living flame gas fire, transverse upgraded 'hub of the house' breakfast kitchen & a substantial brick/uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY. Three bedrooms (one with wardrobes), reapportioned bathroom with white suite, block paved foreground drive & secluded/sheltered rear garden, brick former garage. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £169,950**SEDGLEY****Wenlock Close, Brownswall Estate**

A tremendously EXTENDED, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated semi detached enviably situated in favoured cul de sac. Stylish accommodation has been 'transformed' since initial purchase & comprises reception hall, sitting room with bay, dining room, outstanding L-shape breakfast kitchen acting as 'hub of the house' with range. Three bedrooms (one with wardrobes), reapportioned/re-tiled bathroom with white suite, garage, garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £169,950**HIMLEY****The Limes**

A MOST IMPRESSIVE and EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE GROUND FLOOR LUXURY APARTMENT which forms part of this purpose built development for those of 55 years and over, set within BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED GARDENS and GROUNDS within the "semi rural" Himley village, and still within reach of surrounding shops/amenities, offering an IMPRESSIVE SPACIOUS and BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED layout of accommodation which is entered via a secure main entrance, comprising: entrance hall, large 18'6" reception hall, superb 22'4" lounge with dining room area, feature fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS, both with built in wardrobes and master with an en suite shower room, main bathroom, GAS CENTRAL HEATING and uPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, TWO ALLOCATED CAR PARKING SPACES. EPC Rating B. KINGSWINFORD OFFICE 01384 401777

Offers in the Region Of £164,950**COSELEY****The Paddock**

SIGNIFICANTLY EXTENDED, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated detached enviably situated opposite cricket ground within reasonable distance of rail/bus transport routes, etc. Much enhanced accommodation includes large entrance vestibule, reception hall, fitted cloaks/shower room, dining room, transverse 16'9" lounge, upgraded kitchen, three bedrooms (one with wardrobes), bathroom, 23'2" garage, block paved driveway, secluded rear garden with substantial brick store. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £157,950**DUDLEY****Himley Avenue**

SPACIOUS, significantly upgraded, freehold, uPVC DOUBLE GLAZED & gas centrally heated DETACHED set at head of cul de sac. Stylishly upgraded accommodation includes entrance hallway, 24ft living/dining room, 15'10" breakfast kitchen, THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS, reapportioned bathroom with contemporary white fitted suite, garage, gardens. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £154,950**LOWER GORNAL****Deepdale Lane**

Deceptively spacious, ENLARGED, three bedroom semi detached with BASEMENT FLAT that has been 'transformed' in recent years and the gas centrally heated, uPVC double glazed accommodation comprises: Ground floor - entrance porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room & enlarged/updated kitchen with 'conservatory section', large store/utility room (former garage). First floor - three bedrooms & a reapportioned shower room (former bathroom). Staircase (approach from hall or the store room) down to a 'lower ground floor' flat comprising entrance section, bathroom, living/dining/bedroom areas with a kitchen section. Neat rear garden, good distant views. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950**GORNAL WOOD****Mount Close**

An exceptionally STYLISH, tremendously enhanced & ENLARGED, freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached in quiet/short cul de sac with good distant views from the rear. The 'transformed' accommodation includes entrance vestibule, dining room, lounge with double opening uPVC double glazed doors out to the garden, enlarged/refitted kitchen with a fine range of units & various integrated appliances, further sitting room. Three generous bedrooms, reapportioned bathroom with white contemporary style suite (chrome detailing), drive, good sized garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £149,950**DUDLEY****Burton Road**

An ENLARGED, tremendously modernised & improved, Freehold, gas centrally heated & uPVC double glazed semi detached with very flexible room arrangements. Accommodation includes: porch, reception hall, granny/teenager room (with toilet/handbasin en suite), lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen, pantry, large utility/laundry room. Three bedrooms, bathroom with white suite. Parking to front, rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £148,950**UPPER GORNAL****Clarence Street**

A conscientiously maintained & significantly much improved, freehold, gas centrally heated & primarily uPVC double glazed semi detached conveniently situated within reasonable walking distance of so many amenities & facilities in popular district. Accommodation provides reception hall, walk-in store, 23'8" through living/dining room with feature living flame gas fire, spacious breakfast kitchen. Three generous bedrooms, bathroom. Side passageway with two further stores, and a separate toilet, concrete panel GARAGE (kerb dropped), and a delightful traditional level rear garden. EPC Rating C. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

WAS £139,950, NOW £135,000**COSELEY****Clifton Street, Hurst Hill**

NO UPWARD CHAIN. This beautifully presented, extended, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated, three bedroom semi detached home has been conscientiously maintained/improved by the current owners and internal inspection is strongly advised to appreciate the standard of accommodation provided. The property briefly comprises entrance porch, hall, stylish lounge, extended dining kitchen with a fine range of units, utility, CONSERVATORY, three good bedrooms, refitted bathroom with white suite, driveway, garage & a pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £133,950**UPPER GORNAL****The Paddock**

A conscientiously maintained, comparatively spacious, Freehold, gas centrally heated & double glazed semi detached with further potential set in short/quiet cul-de-sac with GOOD DISTANT VIEWS. Accommodation includes: sitting room, kitchen, uPVC double glazed entrance porch, through living/dining room with bay kitchen, pantry. Three bedrooms, bathroom. Large contractors garage with store & laundry room off, garden. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £130,000**COSELEY****Pickrell Road**

An extended & conscientiously maintained, gas centrally heated & part double glazed semi detached conveniently situated in an established district within reasonable distance of so many amenities/rail station, etc. Accommodation provides entrance porch, hall, sitting room, extended lounge/dining room, kitchen, extended principal bedroom with en suite, two further bedrooms, driveway & a pleasant rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £119,950**COSELEY****Catherine Road, Hurst Hill**

TREMENDOUS POTENTIAL. Enviably situated upon fine CORNER PLOT a Freehold, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated semi detached providing reception hall, kitchen, living/dining room, Three bedrooms, bathroom. SEPARATE GARAGE. Delightful secluded garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £117,750**UPPER GORNAL****Greenhill Road**

A spacious, gas centrally heated (combi boiler), and uPVC double glazed semi detached conveniently situated within reasonable walking distance of so many amenities & facilities in popular district. Accommodation includes: reception hall, 21' through living/dining room with feature living flame gas fire, spacious breakfast kitchen. Three generous bedrooms, bathroom. Side passageway with two further stores, and a separate toilet, concrete panel GARAGE (kerb dropped), and a delightful traditional level rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £115,000**PENSNETT****Teviot Gardens**

Enjoying a position just off the thoroughfare of Teviot Gardens, this REALLY VERY WELL APPROPRIATED, MODERN, THREE BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME should appeal to first time buyers and young families, with a layout having GAS CENTRAL HEATING and DOUBLE GLAZING to comprise: hall, guests cloakroom, pleasant sitting room, oak styled kitchen, dining room area, three first floor bedrooms, and delightful bathroom with corner suite. Fore garden, enclosed rear garden and with rear access to garage. EPC Rating D. BRIERLEY HILL OFFICE 01384 265265

£114,950**GORNAL WOOD****New Street**

A tremendously modernised, enhanced & well insulated, gas centrally heated (combi boiler) & uPVC DOUBLE GLAZED traditional terrace within walking distance of the village & all associated amenities. Delightful accommodation includes sitting room, kitchen, uPVC double glazed CONSERVATORY, two generous bedrooms, bathroom with white suite & shower, sheltered/secluded rear garden. EPC Rating: E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £105,000**GORNAL WOOD****Flavells Lane**

A distinctive & highly individual, freehold, uPVC double glazed & gas centrally heated double fronted cottage of character with further potential. Enjoying good distant views from the front, the property is set well back from the lane (pedestrian access only) and comprises entrance porch, dining room, central hallway, lounge with patio doors, kitchen, bathroom, THREE BEDROOMS, garden designed for 'low maintenance'. No Parking. EPC Rating E. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

Offers in the region of £95,950**DUDLEY****Pebworth Grove**

This modern, uPVC double glazed (vast majority of units), two bedroom semi detached home is well presented throughout & may be of particular interest to first time buyers. Accommodation briefly comprises entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom with white suite, block paved driveway, garage & a lawned rear garden. EPC Rating D. SEDGLEY OFFICE 01902 880888

WAS £99,950, NOW OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £95,000

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KINGSWINFORD, KETLEY ROAD



- Impressive semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Splendid through lounge
- Superb fitted kitchen with built in oven & hob
- Bathroom with shower over the bath
- Gas central heating & upvc double glazing
- Delightful rear garden
- Garage & drive way

£625 PCM NO PETS NO DSS

NEW

STOURBRIDGE, MULBERRY GARDENS



- Stylish ground floor apartment
- Two bedrooms master with ensuite shower room
- Impressive open plan lounge
- Fitted kitchen with built in appliances
- Splendid bathroom
- Gas central heating and upvc double glazing
- Intercom entrance hall
- Delightful communal gardens & allocated parking space

£595 PCM NO DSS NO PETS

NEW

KINGSWINFORD, THE PORTWAY



- Impressive & recently refurbished semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Superb lounge with feature fire place
- Splendid fitted kitchen with built in oven & hob
- Distinctive dining area
- Bathroom with shower over the bath, upvc double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Delightful rear garden, block paved drive way, garage to rear

£575 PCM NO DSS NO PETS

NEW

CRADLEY HEATH, CODSALL ROAD



- Spacious semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Splendid lounge with feature fire place
- Attractive fitted kitchen with built in oven & hob
- Ground floor bathroom with shower over the bath
- Gas central heating & upvc glazing
- Delightful rear garden & drive way

£550 PCM

NEW

QUARRY BANK, GROSVENOR WAY



- Impressive refurbished semi detached bungalow
- Two double bedrooms
- Splendid lounge with feature fire
- Superb reapointed fitted kitchen with cooker
- Attractive refitted bathroom with shower over the bath
- Gas central heating & majority upvc double glazing
- Delightful rear garden, garage & car port

£550 PCM NO DSS NO PETS

NEW

14 PEBWORTH GROVE, DUDLEY



- Impressive modern semi detached property, recently refurbished and new carpets throughout
- Three bedrooms
- Splendid lounge
- Refitted kitchen breakfast kitchen
- Refitted bathroom
- Electric storage heating and upvc double glazing
- Delightful rear garden & drive way

£550 PCM NO DSS NO PETS

NEW

21 AVENUE ROAD, DUDLEY



- Impressive and stylishly decorated property
- Three bedrooms
- Splendid lounge
- Superb fitted kitchen with new gas cooker
- Ground floor bathroom with white suite
- Gas central heating and upvc double glazing
- Delightful rear garden

£525 PCM

NEW

DUDLEY, MONCRIEFFE CLOSE



- Superb spacious second floor apartment
- Two good size bedrooms
- Splendid dining lounge
- Fitted kitchen with new cooker
- Bathroom with shower over the bath
- Economy seven electric heating
- Allocated parking space & delightful communal gardens

£450 PCM NO DSS NO PETS

NEW

DUDLEY, LLOYD STREET



- Spacious terrace house
- Three bedrooms
- Splendid lounge
- Front sitting room
- Verandah
- Ground floor bathroom
- Fitted kitchen with cooker
- Gas central heating
- Rear garden

£450 PCM

NEW

TIVIDALE, MONINS AVENUE



- Impressive second floor apartment over looking the quays
- One double bedroom
- Splendid lounge
- Fitted kitchen with appliances
- Bathroom with shower over the bath
- Electric heating & double glazing
- Allocated parking

£395 PCM NO DSS NO PETS

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- Detached Cottage with character
- Main lounge with dining area
- 2 bedrooms (EPC - E)

£775 PCM

TETTENHALL 7 LIMES ROAD



- Traditional 2 bed mid terrace
- Breakfast kitchen with appliances
- Rear garden with patio area (EPC - D)

£745 PCM

CLAVERLEY 10 DANESBROOK



- 3 bedroom semi detached house
- Separate lounge and dining room
- Recently decorated (EPC - E)

£680 PCM

PEDMORE 11 PEDMORE MEWS



- First floor apartment
- 2 bedrooms master with ensuite
- Secure parking (EPC - C)

£650 PCM

HAGLEY 5 NEWLANDS CLOSE



- Second floor 2 bed apartment
- Spacious lounge with kitchen recess
- Good location for commuting (EPC - D)

£595 PCM

OLDSWINFORD 30 HEATH LANE



- Traditional mid Terrace
- Close to Stourbridge Junction
- 2 bedrooms (EPC - E)

£475 PCM

AMBLECOTE 95 BRETTLE LANE



- Modern ground floor flat
- 1 double bedroom
- Allocated parking (EPC - D)

£425 PCM

WOLLASTON 50A BRIDGENORTH ROAD



- First floor flat
- 2 good size bedrooms
- Village location (EPC - E)

£395 PCM

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PENSNETT  HIGH STREET FOR SALE £149,995 Detached property in a set back position with ample car parking for 3-4 cars. Accommodation of the property comprises of: Entrance Porch & Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Separate Shower Cubicle. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Rear Garden, and NO UPWARD CHAIN.	BRIERLEY HILL  HAWBUSH GARDENS FOR SALE £64,500 Ground Floor Flat Offered with no upward chain. Accommodation to comprise of: Entrance into Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom and a Bathroom. Benefits of the property include: Communal Grounds, Off Road, Parking, and Refitted Kitchen. Make an appointment to view by calling 01384 277701.	KINGSWINFORD NEW  QUEEN STREET £450 pcm Large First Floor Flat. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Gas Central Heating, Bathroom with Walk in Cupboard, Double Glazing. FULLY FURNISHED, Maintained Gardens. No DSS.	PENSNETT NEW  BRYCE ROAD £525 pcm Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Front & Rear Gardens
TIVIDALE NEW  OAKTHORPE GARDENS £420 pcm Purpose built flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking	NETHERTON NEW  PARK ROAD £360 pcm First floor flat, Spacious Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Unfurnished, Off Road Parking, Available End March	TIPTON NEW  HOPKINS STREET £525 pcm Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished	GORNAL NEW  CENTRAL DRIVE £550 pcm Terrace Property, Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished
KINGSWINFORD NEW  SUMMER STREET £595 pcm Cottage, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Rear Garden, Mostly Double Glazed	SWINDON  HIGH STREET £460 pcm First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Parking at Rear ECP - C	BRIERLEY HILL  THE PROMENADE £495 pcm Terraced Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Garden, Unfurnished EPC-D	PENSNETT  THE POPLARS, 70 HIGH STREET £425 pcm Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Loft Space, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Off Road Parking, Garage, Unfurnished
WOLLESCOTE  MURCROFT ROAD £395 pcm First Floor Flat, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Rear Garden	WOODSETTON  FLAVELL STREET £525 pcm Terrace Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Rear Garden, Off Road Parking EPC - D	UPPER GORNAL  VICARAGE ROAD £550 pcm Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Garden, Unfurnished EPC - D	KINGSWINFORD  BARNETT LANE £450 pcm Flat, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, No DSS, No Pets
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KINGSWINFORD  COTTAGE STREET £595 pcm Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Rear Garden	KINGSWINFORD  RANGEWAYS ROAD £725 pcm Link Detached Property, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, WC, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished	TIPTON  TIPPS STONE CLOSE £410 pcm First Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Electric Heating, Off Road Parking, Unfurnished	SEDGLEY  DINGLE VIEW £675 pcm Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished, Front/Side/Rear Gdns, Off Road Parking

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PENSNETT BELMONT ROAD  Providing generously proportioned, neatly refurbished GAS CENTRALLY HEATED AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accommodation ideal for the larger young family, this splendid 4 Bedroomed Semi-Detached residence is available with NO UPWARD CHAIN and briefly comprises - Porch, Hall, Spacious Lounge, SUPERB LARGE RE-FITTED DINING KITCHEN with built in oven and hob, Utility area, 3 good Bedrooms, refitted Bathroom with shower, SPACIOUS LOFT/ATTC ROOM, landscaped rear Gardens and Driveway for 2 cars to the front.EPC-D Offers around £114,950	WITHYMOOR VILLAGE MONKSWELL CLOSE  Pleasantly situated just into this popular cul-de-sac CLOSE TO WITHYMOOR PRIMARY SCHOOL this Modern 2 Bed Intermediate Townhouse provides deceptively spacious well planned GAS CENTRALLY HEATED AND UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED accommodation available at a very KEEN PRICE with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Ideal for the First Time Buyer or young family. Briefly comprises - Porch / Hall, Spacious Lounge, Dining Kitchen, 2 good Bedrooms, Shower Room, landscaped enclosed rear Gardens with private outlook and Garage in separate block close by EPC-TBA Offers around £99,950	NETHERTON YEW TREE HILLS  £10,000 REDUCTION AVAILABLE FOR QUICK SALE! A superbly vasty extended and stylishly improved 4 Bed Detached providing unbelievably spacious, "unique" gas centrally heated and Upvc double glazed family accommodation which SIMPLY MUST BE SEEN TO BE BELIEVED! 1 Hall Downs W.C, spacious Lounge, separate Dining Room opening to sumptuous refitted Kitchen, further Sitting Room, 4 SUPERB BEDROOMS (MASTER WITH LARGE EN-SUITE OFF), stylish house Bathroom, large Garage with block paved driveway and impressive large landscaped level rear Gardens EPC-D Offers around £234,950
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Motoring

Compiled by Motoring
Editor Sharon Walters

Italian job going for bigger picture

FIAT hopes its latest car will make the runaway success of its cheeky little 500 bigger still – literally.

Obviously a business that knows when it's got a (small) monster hit on its hands, the Italian car maker has decided to go large with a tribute model.

Called the 500L it shares nothing with its smaller sibling except an obvious, and wholly deliberate likeness around the front. And the crucial 500 name, of course.

But instead of the little 500's charmingly modest dimensions, the 500L arrives as a junior MPV, replacing the smaller car's knee-banging rear seats with room for strapping adults in the back, and a boot that explodes from boutique friendly to a supermarket shop natural.

By Ian Donaldson

If Fiat was worried buyers might see the Serbian-built 500L as little more than a five-door version of the car it pays homage to, a first glance will put them right. It actually looks quite big, sitting under a watery early spring sky.

Nearly as big, say, as a Ford Focus and bigger than an obvious new competitor, the Ford B-Max, complete with tall body and sliding rear doors.

The 500L comes in three grades; Popstar, Easy and Lounge, with prices from £14,990 to £18,890. There are four engine choices; petrol units with 875ccs and 1.4 litres and a couple of diesels, 1.3 and 1.6 litres.

Easy and Popstar models cost the same, with different trim treatments to tell them apart. The Easy (and dearer Lounge models) have fabric or suede dashboard finishes, which leaves both looking drab, especially when you add in the acres of black inside their surprisingly spacious cabins.

The Pop Star brings a touch of Latin liveliness to its interior with dash panels in the same paint colour as the outside of the car. Very chic it looks, too.

Every 500L has cruise control, air conditioning, five-inch touchscreen radio and (thank goodness) a spare wheel. The Popstar has alloy wheels, ditched on the same price Easy, which includes rear electric windows and rear parking sensors instead.

The top Lounge model comes as standard with a huge glass sunroof, auto climate control and auto wipers and lights.

As standard the Fiat 500L comes with six airbags (front, side and window), three-point safety belts on all five seats

and double pretensioners and load limiters at the front. The steering column is designed to collapse in a heavy frontal impact. This is to protect the driver and prevent the steering wheel being pushed upwards.

Fiat is now providing its small cars with a City Brake Control system designed to reduce the effects of low-speed collision in traffic. By sending out laser impulses and registering how quickly they're reflected, City Brake Control can detect remotely how far the car is from other obstacles.

Depending on variables such as weather conditions, road surface and tyre condition, a crash can either be avoided or the consequences minimised. It operates at speeds between three and 19mph so it won't cut in during parking manoeuvres or at speed when it could create a dangerous situation.

The Fiat 500L also has front headlights that feature daytime running lights and it has front foglights with a self-adaptive cornering function (standard on the 500L Lounge). These illuminate on the side the car is turning towards to light up the verges as well as giving other drivers added warning of the 500L's actual direction of travel.

Espresso

The long options list includes lumbar adjustment for the driver and a DAB and Bluetooth package, costing £100 each and which ought to be standard on the Lounge, at least. Coming later is a yet unpriced option of an on-board espresso coffee machine in the dashboard. No, I'm not making that last bit up.

The Fiat 500L will become the first standard production car in the world to offer a proper espresso coffee machine fully integrated into the dashboard. In collaboration with Lavazza, Fiat has devised a unique deck that allows the coffee maker to be fitted into the passenger compartment. It then uses Lavazza's A Modo Mio capsules to make authentic Italian espresso coffee. Owners who plump for



There are three grades – Popstar, Easy and Lounge

this option will also be able to choose a selection of accessories to complement it including spoon, capsule and sugar holders. Does the rest of the car feel like a dash of Italy? After a drive in the top Lounge diesel, the answer is 'not really'. The 500L is rather too big and serious to carry the genes of a smaller and more vivacious stablemate.

Instead, you get a car that majors on space and sensibility. The diesel keeps its growly nature well under control and provides plenty of performance in the higher gears that are a good diesel's happy hunting ground. The test car's morning's work returned 48mpg on the hard to read trip computer; not a bad result, if a long way below the official figure.

It's not a car for the back road grand prix, preferring a more relaxed life where its generally comfy ride will be appreciated as everyone on board marvels at just how big the little 500 has become.



Prices for 500L range from £14,990 to £18,890

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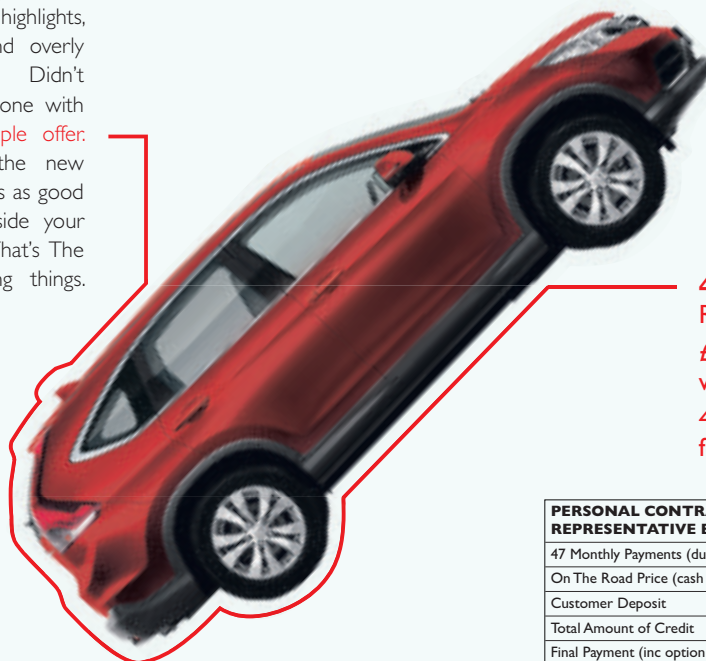
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Customer Deposit	£5,437.75	Total Amount Payable	£24,038.65
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Fuel consumption figures for the new CR-V range in mpg (l/100km): Urban 28.0 - 43.5 (10.1 - 6.5), Extra Urban 43.5 - 55.4 (6.5 - 5.1), Combined 36.7 - 50.4 (7.7 - 5.6). CO₂ emissions: 180 - 149g/km.

Model shown: New CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in Passion Red Pearl at £21,895 On The Road including metallic paint. Terms and Conditions: New retail CR-V registrations from 2 January 2013 to 31 March 2013. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Honda Aspirations (PCP): Example shown based on annual mileage of 10,000. Excess mileage charge: 5p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due; the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage of 10,000 has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8QY. Servicing: Four years' servicing or 50,000 miles, whichever comes first, for £399 including VAT and includes a maximum of four manufacturer's scheduled services.

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*ŠKODA Octavia S 1.2 TSI 105PS starts from £15,990 OTR. Model shown is Octavia Elegance 1.4 TSI 140PS with optional Brilliant Silver metallic paint, Bi-Xenon lighting package and 18" 'Golus' alloy wheels £22,135 OTR. *Terms and conditions apply, please call for full details or visit www.newoctaviafromskoda.co.uk/tandcs

Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Octavia range: Urban 43.5 (6.5) - 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban 61.4 (4.6) - 85.6 (3.3), Combined 53.3 (5.3) - 74.3 (3.8). CO2 emissions 121 - 99 g/km.

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Lions are tamed as Saxons run riot

Stourbridge Saxons 41 Leicester Lions 3

AN OUTSTANDING defensive display and a combination of bludgeon and rapier in attack produced one of the Saxons' best all-round performances of the season.

They ran in six tries against Leicester Lions in this National Two North clash and kept their own line intact.

The opening score was created by winger Sam Baker. He stripped the ball from an isolated opponent and started a counter-attack finished off by Jamie Hearn on the opposite wing.

Leicester hit back with a penalty after a Saxons defender went off his feet arriving at a tackle.

But scrum-half and man of the match Pete White darted through a gap in defence to score straight from the restart kick.

Hearn converted and then added a penalty after an opponent came in at the side of a tackle.

The Saxons also scored through their trademark driving maul. They moved off following an attacking line-out after Leicester strayed offside, with hooker Stewart Pearl the man to ground the ball.

The first half ended with centre Will Hurrell in the sinbin after a clumsy challenge on a man in the air.

Before Hurrell's return, the 14-man Saxons struck on the counter when Hearn collected White's chip.

Hurrell then received a scoring pass from replacement Caolan Ryan before flanker James Rodley got the final score.

Football results and fixtures

Dudley & Cradley Heath Results

Ray Turley Memorial Competition (sponsored by Turley Electrical and Beach Insurance) Group 1: Three Crowns 1 Bush Ath 4, Group 2: Baggeridge 2 King William 0.

Joe Stanton Memorial Trophy round 3: Dudley Olymp 3 Britannia 5. Premier Division: Pensnett Utd 4 Spills Meadow 0, Loyds 1 Wackers 7. Division 1: Dudley Utd 1 Halesowen Members 2, Rulton Harriers 3 Sedgley White Lion 8, Village Dudley 2 Tenth Lock 0, Forest Falcons 0 Malt Shovel Ath 2, Ockerhill Waggon 6 Hadcroft Rovers 4.

Fixtures, Sunday
Ray Turley Memorial Competition group 2: King William v Baggeridge. Joe Stanton Memorial Trophy semi-final: Britannia v Three Crowns. Round 3: Pensnett Utd v Wackers.

Premier Division: Bush Ath v Loyds.
Division 1: Hadcroft Rovers v Forest Falcons; Malt Shovel Ath v Dudley Utd; Sedgley White Lion v Ockerhill; Barley Mow Wdrs v Halesowen Members; Village Dudley v Dudley Olymp.

Gentlemen's trophy relish

MORE THAN 70 members took part in a new trophy competition at Envil Golf Club.

The first Taberner Trophy was fought out in a match between the 'gentlemen' and the 'seniors'.

A tight affair under the four ball, better ball format saw the gents take the honours by 11 matches to nine.

Richard Taberner presented the trophy which bears his name to club captain Mark Hitchcroft.



Richard Taberner presents the trophy to Mark Hitchcroft

Jordan's England honours

FORMER Dudley Kingswinford player Jordan Brookes has become the latest to gain international honours.

The scrum-half, who graduated through the DK junior ranks, played for England Students against their French counterparts at Richmond's Athletic Ground.

Brookes came off the bench in the second-half and impressed despite England's 22-18 defeat to a strong side whose players are all contracted to France's top 14 outfits.

At DK he came through mini and junior sides under Mark Lockley and Neil Shillington as part of a squad that reached the National Colts semi-final. He graduated to the first XV, establishing himself as an outstanding scrum-half.

Brookes went to Loughborough and began to feature in the Students BUCS team and then the National League team. He returned to DK on a work placement last year as the club finished runners-up in National Three Midlands.

On returning to Loughborough this season, he has been their first-choice scrum-half.



Jordan Brookes in full flow

It's tricky going as Yeltz slip to defeat

Northwich Victoria 3 Halesowen Town 0

HALESOWEN were well beaten by an impressive Northwich side that adapted to the difficult pitch rather better than the visitors and ultimately ran out deserved winners.

The Yeltz found themselves behind on only eight minutes when Jack Duggan headed a free-kick over goalkeeper Paul Evans and into the net.

Jean-Michel Gueyes tried to get the Yeltz moving forward and set up Ben Haseley, who saw his shot blocked - but that was Halesowen's best chance of the first half.

Things got worse for them on 61 minutes when recent signing Adam Meacham was caught in possession and Luke Holden capitalised when he beat Evans from 15 yards with a low shot to make it 2-0.

Halesowen had their best spell after this, with Haseley bringing a save out of Northwich goalkeeper Steve Dickenson after being set up by Gueyes.

Haseley then flashed a shot wide of the post after receiving a cutback from Aaron Griffiths.

But the game was up for Halesowen a minute from time. Joe Bunney was brought down by Brendan Kelly in the area; he got up to score the penalty and condemn the Yeltz to their second defeat in a week.

They had gone down 3-1 at home to Belper Town the previous Tuesday, Luke Corbett getting the goal.

■ Haseley has been nominated as Northern Evo-Stik fans' player of the season. For details, see www.hf-c.com/home.html

Pool league

Black Country Pool League

.....P W L D F A P
Brierley Hill.....7. 6. 1. 0 32 10 52
The Crown B.....7. 6. 1. 0 32 10 50
The Crown A.....7. 5. 1. 1 28 14 43
Cossley Tavern.....7. 4. 3. 0 27 15 41
Club Dudley.....6. 4. 1. 2 28 14 39
Dudley Snooker.....7. 4. 1. 2 24 18 37
Wheatheaf B.....7. 5. 0. 2 22 20 36
Rookery Tavern.....7. 3. 2. 2 23 19 34
The Grange A.....7. 3. 0. 4 18 24 29
Bluebells.....7. 2. 3. 2 19 23 29
Wheatheaf A.....7. 0. 4. 3 18 24 26
Ella's Bar.....7. 2. 0. 5 17 25 25
The Brades A.....7. 2. 2. 3 18 24 24
White Swan.....6. 1. 2. 3 16 20 23
Britannia.....6. 1. 0. 5 12 24 17
The Brades B.....7. 0. 2. 5 11 31 15
The 3 Crowns.....7. 0. 1. 6 8 34 9
Results - Match 7: Dudley Snooker 1 The Crown B 5; Wheatheaf A 3 Cossley Tavern 3; Brierley Hill Snooker 5 The Grange A 1; White Swan 2 The Brades A 4; Three Crowns 0 Ella's Bar 6; The Crown A 5 Britannia 1; The Brades B 3 Bunch of Bluebells 3; The Grange B 2 Wheatheaf B 4; Club Dudley 4 Rookery Tavern 2.

Historic cup contested for 119th time at final

BUSH ATHLETIC and Wackers are the two teams to contest one of the area's most celebrated trophies.

On Easter Tuesday, April 2, at 7.30pm the 119th Dudley Guest Hospital Cup final starts at Tividale FC's Parkwood Road ground with the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Melvyn Mottram, and Mayoress Mrs Michelle Mottram present.

The cup, bought in 1874 from Birmingham Silversmith Gilbert Spurnier with money raised by Dudley businessmen, has three figures on it representing 'Faith, Hope and Charity' as well as an engraving of the hospital at that time and Dudley's coat of arms. The original cup is still presented to winners.

The first competition, instigated in 1886 saw Great Bridge Trinity beat Tividale in the final and the cup has been played for every year except for the war years of 1915-19 and 1939-43.

A West Bromwich Albion side won it in the 1891-92 season, beating Stourbridge 3-1 at Old Hill Wanderers.

Train

In the 1896-97 final between Cannock Town and Dudley St James, at Buffery Park Dudley, it is reported that a special train ran from Cannock to Kates Hill Station taking 500 Cannock fans to see their team win.

The 1919-20 final saw the trophy shared as Lower Gornal Athletic and Old Hill Unity drew the final and the replay, both played at the County Ground, Dudley.

Other teams to play for the trophy include Stafford Rangers, Brierley Hill Alliance, Dudley Town, Hed-

Football

nesford and Willenhall Town. The final has been held at various venues since the competition started.

Since the 1919-20 season the main home for the final was the County Ground Dudley until the 1985-86 season when the centenary final moved to Tividale due to subsidence and closure of the County Ground.

To mark the centenary of the competition, Raydon Trophies donated the Centenary Cup that is now presented to winners along with the original cup.

Until 1976 the cup completion was an open event for Saturday teams to help raise money for the hospital, as the original competition had been set up to do back in 1885.

The Dudley and Cradley Heath League were asked if they would care to take over the competition for Sunday morning teams and have since raised more than £20,000 towards the cost of the hospital's therapy pool, chapel and many items on various wards.

Craig proves to be simply champion in area final

CRAIG MORRIS booked his place in the first regional stages of the senior ABA competition after being crowned Midlands champion with an area final victory.

Morris, of Lions ABC, Dudley, saw off hometown fighter Craig Sheldon, of Willenhall ABC, at the Coventry District's Social Club on Sunday, writes Craig Birch.

The 71kg Black Country man started slowly but got better as his first fight over three, three-minute rounds went on.

By the final round Morris was steaming forward and ramming home straight shots to set up flush right hooks from a southpaw stance, bamboozling Sheldon's defences.

The judges were in no doubt of the decision and went with Morris unanimously on points, propelling him into this weekend's next round with a convincing win.

But there was disappointment for Dudley cohort Josh Aston, from Priory Park ABC, as he came off second-best to the 2011 ABA national champion, Alimaan Hussain.

Aston - cousin of pro Ryan - came close to taking a standing count on a number of occasions as he struggled to fend off straight shots from the talented Hussain.

Hussain, from Aston ABC, connected almost at will with right hands that went over his opponent's jab and guard.

He went on to record a one-sided unanimous points success.



New 71kg Midlands area champion Craig Morris, of Lions ABC in Dudley, is flanked by coach Kev Dillon, left, and senior coach John Shakespeare

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SPORT

Trophy time
Golfers take part in new competition
Page 47



Just champion
Morris fights his way to the area crown
Page 47



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Dudley rider Max Clegg

Club pick up brace of trophies

HIMLEY CRICKET CLUB have picked up a brace of trophies with the new season just around the corner.

John Crawford was named Midlands Club Cricket Conference groundsman of the year.

He received his award from club chairman Gordon Lewis and MCCC chairman Bill Tansell.

Greg Wright was named Banks's Trophy Cricketer of the Year 2012 for the Birmingham Premier League.

Cricket

Wright will also captain one of the sides to play in the league's 125th anniversary celebrations.

He will lead the post-1998 Premier League team, which will be managed by Himley's Tony Lea.

They will take on the pre-1998 side to be captained by Kidderminster's Jonathon Wright.

That team will be jointly managed by Wolverhampton's David Manning and Himley's former club

captain David Middleton, who is now with Walsall.

The match is at Kidderminster's ground on Thursday, July 11.

In other good news for Himley, Andy Biggs has been elected for a further term of office on the management board of the Birmingham & District Premier Cricket League.

The other Himley members on the board are Lea, who is an elected member, and Tom Waterhouse the Staffordshire Cricket Board representative.



John Crawford, centre, with Gordon Lewis, left, and Bill Tansell

Town on top before The Horse comes on

Alvechurch 2 Tipton Town 4

FORMER Albion and Blues hero Geoff Horsfield was in the Alvechurch squad but it did not faze Tipton as they ran out deserved winners.

Tipton lost 3-0 at Midland Alliance league leaders Stratford Town last Tuesday but got points on Lye Meadow's slope on Saturday.

Horsfield came on as a 57th-minute substitute, but Tipton were in control after coming from behind.

Alvechurch's Jazz Luckie had chipped over the top and Mitch Plows had to relieve pressure with a tackle on Lewis Wright before a Richard Huckfield header on the home goal was cleared from under the bar.

In the 18th minute the Church's Dayle Kenny pulled the defence awry, Joe Wright finishing. Shortly after Huckfield thwarted Luckie in the area before equalising on 20 minutes with a brave header.

In the 24th minute Hayfield beat away Liam Spink's spot-kick after a foul on Ryan Hatfield but Wright scored again for Alvechurch a minute later.

Tipton's Karl Edwards fastened onto Haycock's pass to sprint through the defence and equalise before half-time and, after the break, Danny Dubaid made an immediate impact as sub by scoring in minutes.

Wright gave way to Horsfield but Dubaid forced a save from Maher in the 61st minute before skipper Tom Tonks joined the fray, to help bolster Tipton's efforts.

Pressure on the home goal saw Matt Martin upended in the 86th minute and Plows scored from the penalty spot.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford, Thursday, March 14, 2013.

School classes prevent practice

DUDLEY HEATHENS have given up on a pre-season team practice - because of school classes.

They wanted a get-together before the season-opener at Coventry in the Travel Plus Trophy on Friday, March 22.

Squad commitments - including school for 15-year-olds Max Clegg and Nathan Greaves - ruled it out.

The team are invited to Wolverhampton's press and practice session on Tuesday, March 26, from 6.30pm.

Boss Will Pottinger said: "We need to get some laps in around Monmore Green before our first home meeting on April 9 against Coventry."

"We tried to get the lads together, but it's been impossible to get them together on the same day because of work, school and transport issues."

Amazing

"It's amazing to think we have riders who are at school and yet riding speedway for our club! We're looking forward to what promises to be an exciting season."

Clegg is happy to be a part. "I've had good first impressions of the club. The management seem really good and all the supporters are good as well," he said.

"I don't really think pressure will affect me that much, even though I'm joining a club with a lot of fans. I used to let pressure get to me a lot, but I think more fans spurs me on a bit now and makes me ride better if anything."

"We could have a good chance of the league title if we all get settled in quickly and have some good meetings. Nathan is a newcomer, so you can never be sure how he will do, but he's a good rider and I think he'll do well."

"It should be a good season and hopefully we end up towards the top."

SAUNDERS' LOANS WAIT ON STRIKERS

WOLVES were trying to get one or even two Premier League strikers in on loan this week as they battle to beat relegation from the Championship.

Manager Dean Saunders was awaiting the go-ahead from two top-flight clubs to make his move for centre-forwards once those teams have beaten the drop.

"I'm still looking at maybe getting one or two in - I'm trying my best to make that happen," said Saunders.

"There are a couple of teams who aren't prepared to let the players go who we want until they get another point, or that type of thing."

"We're in talks with three or four Premier League clubs - that's what we're trying to do right now."

Clubs have until March 28 for loans and Wolves have Reading centre-back Kasparas Gorkss and Liverpool left-back Jack Robinson, but Saunders has wanted another striker virtually since he arrived in January.

He missed Birmingham's 14-goal top scorer Marlon King while linked with Reading's out-of-favour forward Simon Church.

Bigger

They have kept an eye on Norwich hitman Simeon Jackson, although it is understood they are now eyeing bigger front men.

Asked what he was after, Saunders added: "There's a mixture. We've got a list of players we're trying to get in - it's a case of 'if we can't get him, we'll get him, and so on'. We're waiting on that."

Saunders is unlikely to let anyone leave on loan, apart from players with little or no chance of playing.

"We've got to the point now where unless a player is a million miles away from the team, I don't think we

by Tim Nash

should be loaning anyone out now," he said.

Sources say Wolves scouts were at Gateshead's 3-0 win over Hyde on Saturday.

Their target may be Gateshead's 22-year-old midfielder Josh Gillies, who has 10 goals this season.

Meanwhile, Razak Boukari could be two weeks away from rejoining Wolves' survival push - providing he doesn't need an operation.

The £3m winger, out since September 29, is working back into full training, and has been completing parts of sessions for over a week.

However, the rare calf injury could flare up at any time. Saunders said: "Razak is a couple of weeks away from being anywhere near."

"He's joining in, but it's the step up that's done him in the past, with fatigue."

"He's got a separation in his calf, and instead of knitting together there's just scar tissue holding it."

Other long-term casualty, George Elokobi, may be available next month. The left-back is weeks ahead of schedule following a broken and dislocated ankle.

Keeper Wayne Hennessey should return in pre-season from a re-ruptured cruciate ligament.

Eagles are enjoying the good times all round



The final countdown - the happy Kewford Eagles Girls under-15s side are now getting set for their big day

KEWFORD EAGLES are enjoying great times on and off the field.

They have started work on their new development at Wall Heath, which will feature 11 pitches and full facilities.

Support and funding has come from the FA, Football Foundation, Sports England and many other sources.

On the park, the under-15 girls side won their way through to the final of the Central Warwickshire League Open Cup, beating Sutton United 3-2 in the

last four in a gripping game which Kewford, who have played together as a team for six years, finally won.

They face Droitwich or Wolves in the final which will be staged in Birmingham during May.

As expected, the semi-final was a tight affair with Kewford lying fourth in the Premier Division, just one place above their rivals.

Kewford struck early through Kat Fryzer's well-taken goal, but Sutton

equalised before half-time with a penalty. Again, Kewford scored early in the second period, Chelsey Jervis finding the net, and added a fine third through Aimee Brook.

A second penalty put Sutton back into contention, but Kewford saw the game out to earn the plaudits.

Kewford are looking for experienced players in school years nine or 10 to strengthen the squad. Call Rob Childs on 07981 921598.

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